

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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President:—Major A. A. Bartlett

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MONDAY, JUNE 9th, 1919

THE DOMINION BUDGET.

The Dominion budget, a summary of which was given in Saturday's Guardian, is unquestionably the most important document ever presented to the Canadian people. It shows at the outset the effect of the war upon our Canadian housekeeping. It is somewhat startling, although perhaps not surprising, that as a direct result of the war the ultimate debt of the Dominion, when all expenditures are met, will be \$1,950,000,000, which will be better understood when reduced to the indebtedness per head of our population, namely \$220 for each man, woman and child in the Dominion. The interest on this tremendous debt will be \$115,000,000 a year, besides some thirty to forty million dollars a year for pensions.

What Canadians generally were looking forward to was the manner in which these expenditures were going to be met, what taxes were to be imposed, what relief was forthcoming in the matter of the high cost of living. On these points we believe there will be general satisfaction. The burden of taxation is falling upon those best able to bear it. The large incomes have been taxed to the satisfaction of all who are not receiving large salaries. On these the scale rises from 52 per cent to 65 per cent, while corporations pay ten per cent, on all incomes of \$2000 and over. The general income tax, under the new schedule, will be almost as heavy as that in Great Britain and the United States.

A substantial reduction has been made in customs duties, reductions which aggregate a revenue loss of \$25,000,000, the list including agricultural implements, clothing, boots and shoes, etc.

The Opposition will have little room for adverse criticism in view of the conditions to be met. The war indebtedness must be met. It is being met by a tax upon the wealthy; the cost of living is being reduced by the removal of such duties as in the opinion of those who have the handling of the situation, can be removed without too seriously endangering the revenue. As it is the revenue loss on account of these reductions is \$25,000,000.

In concluding his speech, Sir Thomas White announced that, within a year, he expected conditions will have become so stabilized as to permit of a general revision of the tariff which is long, but owing to the war, unavoidably due. Preceding such a revision there will be a thorough inquiry, which he expected would be begun this autumn.

ROADS AND POLITICS.

It is customary before elections for Opposition newspapers and politicians to anathematize the roads, to declare them the worst roads ever known in any civilized community and absolutely unsafe for man or beast to risk their lives upon them. This unsavory campaign is now in full swing here, so much so that if no better information were available outside the province our summer visitors would certainly give us a wide berth.

Now, what are the facts? There are some miles of road that are not creditable to the province or to the communities through which they pass. The approaches to Charlottetown are rough, rutty and uncomfortable to drive upon, particularly in automobiles.

Outside of these and possibly a few other sections throughout the province our roads are at least as good as they ever were and generally better than those in any of our sister provinces. A Charlottetown party who motored from Alberton the other day found the whole road, with a very few exceptions west of Summerside, in excellent condition. Another Charlottetown party went out for a "spin" on the King's Birthday, and were tempted by the good roads along the South Shore to continue their drive to Borden. They left Borden on return at 5 p.m. and were at Rocky Point wharf fifteen minutes before the seven o'clock ferry left for Charlottetown. They declare the whole road almost perfect without any exceptions. There are hundreds of miles of similar road throughout the province, yet our little politicians dwell with an agony of enjoyable pain on the "awful conditions" of the Island roads.

In this province, among those who know that this wholesale denunciation of the roads must be gone through with before every election, it does no harm, it keeps nobody off the roads and business goes on as usual. When this "literature" happens to fall outside the province, however, or into the hands of strangers in the province, it is capable of infinite mischief and can easily be construed into an idea that the province is a sort of an outlawed, god-forsaken and degenerate country which it would be unsafe to visit.

Politics is politics and much of it is pretty rotten, but none of it more so than the kind that is ready to foul its own nest in the hope of making party capital out of it. If it is necessary to blame the Government because a certain piece of road needs repairing let it be done, severely if necessary, but let it not be a wholesale onslaught on the fair name of the province.

BOY AND GIRL SURVEY.

As intimated in yesterday's Guardian the Rotarians of Charlottetown are inaugurating a survey of the boy and girl life in the city with a view to obtaining such information as will lead to the extension of help, moral, spiritual and physical, to those who, a few years hence, will be men and women, and who, here or elsewhere, will be the makers or unmakers of the country or city of which they shall be the residents.

That there is need of such a movement, events tran-

spiring occasionally in the boy and girl life of the city clearly indicate. Such a survey, followed by a determined campaign to correct conditions that need correction should have far-reaching consequences for the future of the city and of its coming men and women.

The boy and girl life of Charlottetown, life that in most cities is not uniformly what it ought to be. There are occasional strayings from the straight and narrow path and we all with one accord proceed to blame the parents of the straying ones.

Let it be distinctly understood, and candidly admitted at the outset that the blame does not lie with the parents, but with the conditions which WE professedly Christian men and women have permitted to grow up around them. WE constitute at least 90 per cent of the population of the city; THEY who need reform, whose homes are no homes, whose children are being trained on the streets, whose children are tramping the streets when they should be in bed, whose children are playing truant when they should be in school, constitute less than the other ten per cent.

We have nine churches in Charlottetown with nine Sunday schools, Bible classes, and various church organizations. We sing with fervour of the "ninety and nine that safely lay in the shelter of the fold" and devoutly thank God that we are of the "ninety and nine." What are we doing for the "one that has gone astray"? Only "one" to "ninety-nine" of us?

Let there be a survey by all means; let us find out the conditions which we are tolerating right in our midst under the shadow of our churches, and let the survey embrace our churches as well and see how far their influence extends into the homes from which, occasionally, one wanders "away from the tender shepherd's care," how far it extends towards those who never knew of a shepherd's care.

THE EXTERNAL AUDIT

WHAT IS ITS VALUE?

The annual report of the Provincial Auditor covers the cash receipts and cash expenditures of the Financial Period reported on as known at the time of closing the books and accounts. At present our financial year is the calendar year. Such reports, although correct to a cent does not reveal the real financial position of the province because it cannot contain a statement of the revenues due and uncollected nor the liabilities incurred and unpaid as neither of these are known when the books are being closed.

The matter has been a bone of contention between governments and opposition from time immemorial, the opposition contending that the financial position of the province is worse than the books show and the government contending to the contrary.

To meet this situation the Legislature appoints at every session a committee known as the Public Accounts Committee. This body it is true, has wide powers but it fails in its functions from two causes, one, the too short time available to make a satisfactory examination of the many transactions involved and the other that in a legislature of thirty men expert accountants are few and consequently the committee is often too weak to do thorough work. Hence governments by suppressing facts have had an improper advantage in appealing to the country.

The present government therefore, adopted a new policy in this regard. They decided to call in an expert accountant, one having the best training and experience in dealing with such as the provincial accounts, and unquestionably the best man, if they can be had, are the bankers. They are men of ability and well trained in the class of work. Besides these men cannot attain to, or hold their positions, unless they are men of high character and worthy of trust.

The Province has lately been fortunate in securing the services of a banker to make a report apart from Public Accounts. He comes in some time after the books are closed and goes over all the financial statements, finds out the amounts belonging to the past year that were paid or were still unpaid; examines the books for revenues due and uncollected; finds out the amounts due by the province and where such indebtedness is. In short he demands a full revelation of our financial affairs and then places the results of his investigations in a clear statement, in such form that it will stand scrutiny by other bankers as well as by the public.

Then his report is submitted to the Legislature and there made the subject of further enquiry. It is used by the Committee on Public Accounts as a valuable aid in searching into every matter they may deem necessary to enquire into and even the banker himself may be called in if necessary to make good his statement.

But strange to say no member of a Public Accounts Committee has ever challenged one of these Reports. They have been accepted as fair and correct. True some opposition members have tried to discredit these reports as unreliable but not one of them has yet taken his case before the Public Accounts Committee and submitted his proof if he had any.

The best evidence that these Special Audits are a financial benefit is that the credit of P. E. I. is first of any province in Canada.

The Bankers now know our exact financial position and give us credit accordingly. Therefore it does pay to lay our case bare and get the credit rating of interest we are entitled to.

Under the late government such was not the case. We had the Public Accounts Committee appointed every session but being politically controlled they often refused to meet and when they did meet it was to block enquiry—now the difficulty is to get the opposition members to attend the meetings. Why? Because they have no difficulty in obtaining information. Everything is put at their disposal to verify the External Auditor's Report in every detail. It is the first time in the history of this province that an opposition is given every opportunity to know all about our finances. The Assets and Liabilities are plainly set forth and the net balance given.

The public therefore can rest assured that the special audit is quite fair and correct, for besides being capable men, the bankers are the last men to lend themselves to anything that is not honest.

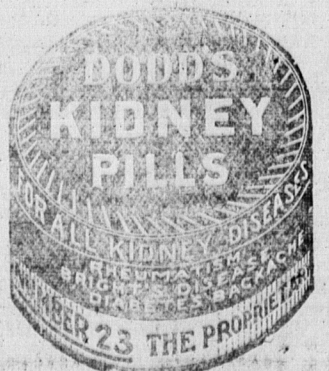
LETTER OF CONDOLENCE

To Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Martin and family, Uigg

Respected Friends:—Whereas in the wise Providence of God he has seen fit to remove from the stage of his earthly being your loving son John W. and our esteemed brother. We as a lodge hereby express to you our appreciation of him as a member of our order and further we wish to express our heartfelt sympathy for our mutual sorrow in this bereavement. Although it may seem hard to part with those near and dear to us let us remember that all things work together for good to those who love Him and while we thus sorrow it becomes us to bow in humble submission to that sovereign hand that has made this break in the family circle.

With our united best wishes

Signed on behalf of Lion L. O. L. No. 1049
Rev. W. H. McEwen, Chaplain; M. E. McDonald, Recording Secretary.
Com. June 6th.



"The House of Quality"

June 1919



No need to ask "Why Marry" ? as we might have done last year—when there were so few weddings, no trousseau, no new Home—and after the transports had sailed no Husband, but now, however, the BOYS are HOME and she has all these things.

THE BRIDE TO BE

Can go to the Altar dressed as a Princess with Satins and Pearls or Silver Brocade, or she can be married under a riot of roses, in a Lace Gown with Lingere-frocked attendants. If the Brides-maides are consulted they will probably incline to the latter, for the new Lingere dresses are altogether adorable.

See Our Silk Dresses for June Weddings

PATONS LIMITED

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers
Furnished by W. S. Lawson

LOVE THYSELF LAST

Love thyself last! Look near; behold thy duty.
To those who walk beside thee show life's road.
Make glad their days by little acts of beauty.
And help them bear the burden of earth's load.
Love thyself last. Look far and find the stranger
Who stagers 'neath his sin and his despair.
Go lend a hand and lead him out of danger.
To heights where he may see the world is fair.

Love thyself last. The vastness above thee
Are filled with Spirit Forces, strong and pure.
And fervently, these faithful friends shall love thee.
Keep thou thy watch o'er others and endure.

Love thyself last; and oh, such joy shall thrill thee
As never yet to selfish souls was given.
Whatever thy lot, a perfect peace will fill thee,
And earth shall seem the ante-room of heaven.
Love thyself last; and thou shalt grow in spirit
To see, to hear, to know and understand.
The message of the stars, lo, thou shalt bear it.
And all God's joys shall be at thy command.

Love thyself last. The world shall be made better
By thee, if this brief motto forms thy creed.
Go follow it in spirit and in letter.
This is the Christ religion which men need.

—British Weekly

DEATH LIST MAY REACH HUNDRED IN MINE DISASTER

Wiltshire, Pa., June 5—Eighty-three to 100 men lost their lives in the Baltimore No. 2 tunnel of the Delaware & Hudson Coal Company explosion and fire today, and thirty-one were injured, according to a list given out by the company officials at noon today.

Eighty-three men dead and fifty others burned and maimed, many of whom will die, is so far the toll of the terrible disaster.

Forty-one bodies have been identified, and thirty-six remain unidentified. The company's injured list is not complete, and it is certain that the number of injured will reach about forty.

Minard's Liniment used by Physicians

FIRE INSURANCE A NECESSITY

Then insure in good strong stock companies, which never contest an honest claim such as is represented by

E. R. BROW
Charlottetown

"An Anchor to Windward"

Is there any better argument than the circumstances of the present day for the necessity to business men of "an anchor to windward" in the shape of Life Insurance Policies, which are always worth one hundred cents on the dollar, no matter when and under what stress of circumstances they became due.

Do not forego this safe assurance for want of a little enquiry.

It will be strange if there is not a Policy to precisely meet YOUR need amongst the many valuable Plans of

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MEN'S plow boots well made and reliable for \$2.50. LADIE'S oxfords and pumps in patent kid and swede sizes 2 1-2, 3, 3 1-2 for \$1.98 not samples or defaced or defective in any way but really worth from \$3.00 to \$4.50.

Polishes
All the best polishes in Champaign, White, Dark and Light Greg or Brown, Etc., Etc. You can have a bargain in a few boxes of the best make of Black at less than wholesale price