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A Gale Event

The official opening of the Charlottetown Forum, which has been postponed until tomorrow night, marks an epoch in the sporting annals of the Province. Hockey is the true Canadian winter sport, skating the most popular of winter exercises. Doubtless there were hockey games before skating rinks were heard of, but hockey under regulation rules and the stimulus of band music and acrobatic stunts for spectators combined in Charlottetown with the opening of the old Hillsboro Rink. Citizens who are now grandfathers can recall that glorious event. To the younger generation the Arena, opened in 1906, has been the centre of attraction every winter. Of late years visiting teams from other Provinces have competed on the local ice, and all classes, young and old, have developed into enthusiastic hockey and skating fans. Last year it was decided that a new and more up-to-date rink was needed, and plans were made for the construction of the Forum, with provision for artificial freezing, adequate lighting and seating accommodation, which could be used not only for indoor ice sports but as an auditorium for mass meetings and other community activities in the summer months.

It required initiative and enterprise to push the project to a successful completion. The result has been well worth the efforts expended, and will prove a splendid asset to Charlottetown in the years to come. The new Forum is the third, artificial rink to be constructed in the Maritime Provinces. In its design and facilities it is one of the finest on the Continent. This is as it should be in a community which has produced some of the best hockey players in eastern Canada, and where the game is followed with such general interest and enthusiasm.

Immediately following the formal opening of the Forum on Tuesday night by His Honour Lieutenant Governor Dalton, the Gyro Club ice Pageant will be given. This is a magnificent event, worthy in every way of the important occasion. The Pageant is under the auspices of the Lieutenant Governor, the Premier, the Mayors of Charlottetown and Summerside, the president of the Forum, the president of the Rotary Club, and the governor of District No. 6 of the International Association of Gyro Clubs. The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to supplying radio equipment for the new Prince Edward Island Sanatorium. A galaxy of local talent has been enlisted for the occasion and the spectacle promises to eclipse anything hitherto seen in this Province. The rehearsing involved in adequately presenting the Pageant made necessary the postponement of the formal opening, which had been scheduled to take place tonight. The performance is now fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday nights and all our citizens should make it a point to be present to see the fun and share in the celebration which marks the occasion.

A Banker's Viewpoint

As the oldest and one of the three most powerful financial institutions in the country, the Bank of Montreal always publishes an annual report replete with matter of public interest. It is reassuring to know that the bank has come through the present depression in as strong a position as ever, and as capable as ever of contributing to the renewal of national prosperity. In his presidential address, Sir Charles Gordon noted that the upward revision of the tariff, carried out at the short session of Parliament, is already producing increased employment in mills and factories, bringing new industries to Canada, and causing expansion in those already existing.

Touching upon the recent Imperial Conference, Sir Charles said that the proceedings have awakened widespread interest, and that much can be accomplished for both countries if trade between Canada and the United Kingdom can be placed upon a reciprocal basis, "as is the case at present between Canada and some other portions of the Empire." He added that, though beginning perhaps only in a small way, such a reciprocal arrangement would undoubtedly lead to impressive results, both for the United Kingdom and this Dominion.

Christmas Shopping

"Buy early and intelligently" is a good policy to follow in one's Christmas shopping. Those forgetful or procrastinating persons who rush around at the last moment, looking for opportunities to purchase presents which they should have purchased weeks before, are a joke to bystanders, an unnecessary nuisance to store-keepers, a disappointment to their friends and an embarrassment to themselves. How would they like Santa Claus to treat them that way? The selecting of a Christmas present is a ritual. If your Uncle Henry dresses quietly and your Aunt Jane has trouble with her corns, you are not fulfilling your obligations to these estimable relatives or contributing in the slightest degree to their Christmas cheer by fobbing them off, at the last moment, with a polka-dot tie and a pair of undersized overshoes. The same rule applies when buying presents for friends and acquaintances. The value of the gift is in its appropriateness. Its object is to please the recipient. And this requires both tact and deliberation. A carefully-mapped-out campaign of Christmas buying is the method followed by "all right-thinking people"—to borrow a much abused phrase from a political contemporary. Try it this year, and see how it works. We will bet dollars to doughnuts that it proves a time saver, a money saver, and a friendship saver.

We write feelingly on this subject because we have suffered from polka-dot ties and undersized overshoes which have had to be taken back and exchanged for something that we could comfortably wear. The unfortunate idiot, however, is the so-called friend who sends us, every year, something that we can neither swap nor give away. He has either bought it just before the shops closed on Christmas Eve—the first thing he could grab off the depleted bargain counter—or he received it from a similar idiot last Christmas and has had it packed away in tissue paper ever since.

From these and from all flat tires, at this Christmas season, Lord deliver us!

Editorial Notes

The same newspapers which defended Mr. King's notorious "five-cent piece" speech are now busy defending Mr. Thomas' "humbus" speech. They have a penchant for that sort of thing.

Premier Lea must feel that he has a grievance against the Toronto Saturday Night. In a front page picture in which he appears with other notables attending the conference with the Federal Minister of Agriculture at Toronto he is referred to as "Acting Premier" of Prince Edward Island.

The modesty of the provincial Minister of Public Works is exemplified in the name chosen for a mile-long strip of experimental highway built between St. Dunstan's University and the Pumping Station. It is to be called the McIntyre Highway. If a name is really necessary, why not the Bennett Highway? Wasn't it financed on a fifty-fifty basis by the Bennett Government?

Notes by the Way

The tour of the Canadian delegates has been the first organized attempt of the business men of the Dominion to educate themselves on the potentialities and needs of the Orient. What its success has been, obviously the future alone can tell. But it can not be the last tour of the kind. Somehow, Canada must extend her trade with the nations of the Far East. They need our goods; we need their markets. Contracts, friendly intercourse, confidence, travel across the Pacific, are sure to grow; and some day, perhaps, the men and women who took part in the tour of 1930 will be proud to remember that they were, in some degree at least, the pioneers in developing a great and profitable trade between Canada and Canada's neighbors across the greatest of oceans.

Geo. Bernard Shaw, the celebrated British author and critic, stated in a lecture the other evening, according to a London cable, that many Englishmen had not worked for years, and that many English children had never known their fathers to work at anything. Mr. Shaw who is somewhat of a pessimist, expressed the opinion that unless there is a great change in the old land before very long, the people will take the matter into their own hands and change things as they did in Russia a few years ago. The strange part of it is that across the English Channel, twenty miles, in France things are good and everybody is employed, and France today has more gold than any other country in the world outside the United States.

It is an interesting fact that the Canadian tonnage through the Panama Canal showed a substantial gain last year. A report of the business of the canal, shows that the tonnage of Canada increased last month by 67,757 tons, or 52.8 per cent. over that of 1929. This occurred in the face of a decreased tonnage from the United States, South America and Australia. Several items, but particularly wheat, caused the exceptionally large proportionate increase of tonnage from Canada. The Panama Canal is found to be extremely useful in connection with the trade of the Pacific Coast.

Prospective transatlantic voyagers—or many of them, at any rate—will read with a good deal of interest about the plan to equip the new Italian liner, Conte di Savoia, with huge gyroscopic wheels, which are expected to maintain the ship on an even keel in the roughest kind of weather. To some travelers this will be an item of no particular importance. These are the travelers who are not subject to seasickness. But the unlucky wight who discovers—after he has embarked on a voyage to Europe—that he gets dizzily seasick on the slightest provocation will hail the news with keen delight. Seasickness is one of the most miserable maladies that can afflict a human being. If these gyroscopic wheels prove to be all their designers expect, this new liner can expect a huge slice of the landlubber trade.

In the long ago when fur-bearing animals running wild were more numerous, the business of fox farming was unthought of. But fur-bearing animals have played a large part in the development of the United States as well as Canada. Almost the first trading between the white man and the Indian involved an exchange of valuable beaver, mink and other pelts or cheap, showy beads, brass kettles, knives and colored print cloth. Early settlers repaid much of their passage money by pelts sent back to England. Skins were frequently the common medium of exchange between early settlers. Many an acre of ground which today would represent a king's ransom had been paid for in skins. The Hudson Bay Company engaged extensively in the business in the Canadian West, taking in supplies by the Bay route before the country was opened up by railways.

Premier F. A. Rolph of the Imperial Bank of Canada believes that Canadian business is definitely, though slowly, on the upward trend. This, he says, is not as generally realized as it should be, owing to the fact that people are naturally inclined to contrast present conditions with those of the banner years of 1928 and 1929. Going back a year further, he finds that present trade activity is practically on a par with that of 1927. "Commodity prices just now," he says, "are down all along the line, but from all available statistics we have every reasonable hope of seeing a betterment in lower cost of production and increased selling prices, sooner perhaps than we now think possible." The transition from deflation to business expansion is always so imperceptible that few perceive the upward trend till prosperity abounds on all sides.



By James W. Barton, M.D. LOW BLOOD SUGAR

In these days of overeating, overweight, too much sugar in the blood, and sugar in the urine, it is well to remember that the opposite condition is also not uncommon, that is not enough sugar in the blood. You will remember that in the Boston Marathon race, three years ago, Harvard physicians, examining the runners after that long hard race found that the leaders had a large amount of sugar in the blood and the exhausted losers had only a small amount. Those with the large amount of sugar not only finished well up in front, but were in good physical condition when they finished, whereas the losers were in an exhausted condition.

Now when the blood is low in sugar the individual feels weak and tired and is usually troubled with indigestion, constipation, gas distension, or other intestinal disturbance. Dr. P. J. Cammidge found low blood pressure in vomiting of children, bilious attacks, recurrent headaches, neurasthenia, convulsive attacks, and lack of energy. In 24 cases the condition was discovered on examination for life insurance; in 48 cases the routine examination of the blood revealed it.

Now what is the cause of this low level of sugar in the blood? "Increasing experience has shown that acquired infection of any kind—teeth, tonsils, and so forth—and intestinal disorders of various kinds, are among the frequent causes of low blood sugar; and as greater attention has been paid to discovering these infections, and more efficient measures for dealing with them have been adopted there has been a corresponding improvement in results."

Experiments have shown that heredity is also a factor, and where treatment has been used on parents, the development of serious symptoms in the children has been prevented. The thought then is that where the individual feels tired all the time, is easily exhausted, and has intestinal disorders, that an examination of the blood should be made.

The removal of any infection, and increasing of intake of sugar and candy should be of help.



IN MEMORIAM

Nothing is here for tears, nothing to wall Or knock the breast; no weakness, no contempt. Dispraise, or blame; nothing but well and fair, And what may quiet us in a death so noble.

To fetch him hence, and solemnly attend, With silent obsequy, and funeral train, Home to his father's house; there will I build him A monument, and plant it round with shade Of laurel ever green, and branching palm, With all his trophies hung, and acts enrolled In copious legend, or sweet lyric song. Thither shall all the valiant youth resort, And from his memory inflame their breasts To matchless valour, and adventures high.

Gaspers for One

—His Majesty's venerable aunt, H. R. H. Princess Louise, dowager Duchess of Argyll, dowager Baroness of Inveraray, Mull, Morvern, Tiry et al., daughter of the late great Queen Victoria, attended recently a concert staged by her own Kensington Regiment, found fault. "Why aren't the men smoking?" she questioned crisply. "Let them all smoke! In fact, I want a cigarette myself." Shamefacedly the regimental commander pulled from his pocket a slightly crumpled pasteboard container. "I am sorry, Your Royal Highness," he apologized, "these are not one of the best brands." "Nonsense!" snapped Victoria's daughter, taking one of the cheap cigarettes, bending over the embarrassed officer's match. "Nonsense, if always smoke gaspers!" and as the concert began His Majesty's venerable aunt was seen to inhale vigorously.

The Top of the World

(Montreal Gazette)

To the average Canadian citizen, preoccupied with gloomy meditations on the subject of coal bills, storm windows, overshoes, and other matters having to do with the forthcoming winter, confirmation of Canadian sovereignty over a group of ice-covered islands far up in the Arctic seas may be of little personal concern. It seems, however, that these more or less barren territories lying to the north of the Canadian mainland have some sort of irresistible attraction for scientific and other investigators of more than one nation. Students of ocean currents, of meteorological disturbances and their origins, of bird life, and of aboriginal manners and customs, have found in these far northern areas much interesting material, upon which they have reported from time to time to the governments or institutions responsible for their activities. Canada has claimed complete territorial jurisdiction between the 60th and 141st meridians as far north as the Pole. The British Government's interest in these territories was formally transferred to Canada fifty years ago and the Dominion has been exercising administrative authority over as much of the vast region as is inhabited by natives or visited by traders. Since the advent of the aeroplane, access to the more remote islands has been facilitated and at the same time the whole region has assumed a new importance in consideration of the possibilities of aerial travel from continent to continent, with bases in the Far North. Venture some spirits have found their way into these wastes on more or less lawful occasions. The Norwegian expedition of 1926-1930, under the command of Otto Sverdrup, was purely scientific. Four islands in the extreme north were "discovered," that is to say, were visited by the Fram and its crew, and Norwegian names were given to them. It does not appear, however, that the Norwegian Government was ever very keenly interested in these islands or ever insisted very strongly upon the assertion of sovereignty over them. The negotiations between Ottawa and Oslo seemed to have been friendly in character, with the result that the Norwegian Government formally relinquished all claim to the territories of which Commander Sverdrup had taken possession. As a matter of fact, no attempt had been made by the Norwegian Government to occupy the islands or to undertake any duties of administration, whereas the Canadian right of ownership and administration had not only been asserted in the preparation and publication of maps of these regions, but had been the subject of a formal declaration in the Canadian House of Commons.

While the Dominion Government, for many years, has taken an active interest in the exploration and administration of these Arctic possessions, has established and maintained police posts at various points, has enforced the Canadian customs law, and attended to the health of the natives, and has sponsored more than one scientific investigation, it is doubtful if the effort put forward has not been out of proportion to the immediate advantages obtained. At the same time, the Government has had in mind a possibility of future values and has been encouraged in this respect by the activities of other countries, or their nationals. American expeditions, particularly, have shown a fondness for these northern regions and at times have manifested either an ignorance of Canadian sovereignty or an indifference to it. It is in this connection that the acknowledgement made by the Norwegian Government seems likely to have a bearing extending beyond the issue as to the ownership of three or four islands. It is an international transaction of broad significance, which significance should not be lost upon other nations.

Very sincerely yours, H. V. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce.

Nothing is here for tears, nothing to wall Or knock the breast; no weakness, no contempt. Dispraise, or blame; nothing but well and fair, And what may quiet us in a death so noble.



SHOP EARLY AND SAVE at the Metropolitan Store

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE OTTAWA, CANADA December 6th, 1930.

Suppose Everybody Rocked the Boat! One of my friends, who has what he considers a refined taste in cheese and is particularly partial to imported brands, tells me that he thinks I am overstepping the bounds of good taste in keeping this "Produced in Canada" agitation up so long, and elaborating it from so many angles. In effect he says to me: "So long as the importation of cheese is lawful, whose business but my own is it if I gratify my liking for imported cheese? I pay what the law demands in the way of customs duties. Then why lecture me for doing what I have a perfect right to do?" Whose business but his own? I am going to try to show him, in this my public answer to him, that it's everybody's business! As an easy and effective way of doing so, an old lesson from school days comes aptly to mind. In proving his theorems, you all remember how often Euclid used to employ the "reductio ad absurdum" method—assuming the opposite of what he wanted to prove, and then showing how absurd were the deductions it involved. So let us try the same thing on this business of importing cheese, remembering always, of course, that any one of a hundred other products would serve equally well as an illustration. First we must admit that if it's all right for some Canadians to restrict their purchases of cheese to imported cheese, it's all right for every Canadian to do the same thing. Now if not one single Canadian were to purchase Canadian-made cheese, most of the Canadian cheese factories would have no alternative but to close up, for there isn't nearly enough export trade in cheese to keep them all going. Next, we must concede that if there is no question about the propriety of those people, who prefer imported cheese, buying imported cheese, we must likewise concede that there can be no question about the propriety of those people who prefer imported biscuits, jams, hats, shoes, motor cars or what not, buying such articles. And as before, if there can be no objection to some Canadians buying such articles, there can be no objection if every Canadian should decide to pass up every Canadian manufacturer, and buy only articles that had been made by some foreign manufacturer, employing foreign labour and using foreign materials. Result—Every Canadian factory of every kind whatsoever (excepting only those manufacturing wholly or mainly for export) closed up, hundreds of thousands of wage-earners left stranded, tradesmen deprived of the great majority of their cash customers, landlords clamouring for rents and professional men clamouring for fees that could not be collected, empty houses, empty stores, tax sales, people moving away—all for the simple reason that nobody had any income because nobody was producing anything. Nobody, that is to say, except the Canadian farmer. But why should we assume that he would still be producing? If Canadians unanimously chose to buy imported manufactured articles in preference to domestic manufactured articles, why should they not also choose with equal propriety to buy imported farm products in preference to domestic farm products? Many Canadians already do it regularly in the case of early fruits and vegetables. So if it's all right for some of them to do it part of the time, why isn't it all right for all of them to do it all of the time? Of course by the time we got round to the point where nobody in Canada was producing anything, due to the fact that no Canadian was willing to buy a made-in-Canada product, none of us would have the wherewithal to buy the next meal. "Which is absurd," as our friend Euclid would say. Hence we are forced to the conclusion that our original assumption was incorrect. That being so, my friend should seriously consider trying to curb his appetite for imported cheese, and endeavour to satisfy it with Canadian cheese.

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