

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 1926

OUR POOR RELATIONS

Poor relations are usually regarded as an undesirable circumstance. They are supposed to be a cover on the watch for favors and awaiting our demise with a covetous eye on the last will and testament.

Sometimes, however, they have their uses in which case we hold them in great respect and are glad to tell the world how much we think of them, glad also to remind them occasionally that they shall not be forgotten when we are finally disposing of our earthly possessions.

The Progressives may be regarded as the Poor Relations of the Liberal party. Up to near the close of the late parliament the rich Liberals who were in possession of the estate were quite willing to recognize them, to give them an occasional dole and to generally fraternize with them. But the Poor Relations became too insistent; they were not satisfied with the crumbs that fell from the table; they wanted to sit down to the feast. This became intolerable to the Liberals and Mr. Mackenzie King declared it must be put to an end. He had parliament dissolved on the ground that it was impossible to carry on with these Progressives; he must have more assistance from his own political kith and kin. He had no further use for his Poor Relations.

When the coal came his own kith and kin went back on him; they refused to come to his assistance. Perforce he is obliged to turn again to his Poor Relations. And now the Liberal press and the Liberal orators are exhausting their vocabularies in their commendation of the Progressives. We are daily being told how closely allied the Progressives are with the Liberals in policy, in aspirations, in honesty and patriotism. The Progressives are generously remembered in the last will and testament as read from the Throne. They are to get the Hudson Bay Railway, cabinet positions, senatorships and official recognition. They are kith and kin to the Liberals, we are assured, and good fellows all and there is no reason why they should not be admitted into the family.

But here comes one of them, Mr. Carmichael, of Kindersley, Saskatchewan, and spills all the beans. In a speech reported in Tuesday's Guardian, he reminds the House that Premier King depends upon the Progressives for support to carry on. He reminds them also that "the two groups have different policies," instancing the opposition of the Quebec members to Rural Credits when the question was up before and when the West unanimously favored it. And now, he said, the Speech from the Throne promises to again introduce Rural Credits. How shall they agree. The West wants the Hudson Bay Railway and the Speech promises its early completion. It was unfortunate, said Mr. Carmichael, to recall that when this question came up before the last session of parliament only 20 members voted in favor of it.

In reminding the Liberals of these events of the recent past, he took occasion to remind them that they were now looking to the Progressives to pull them through. In fact his speech reminds one of Shylock's reply to Antonio when the latter in financial plight asked him for the loan of ten thousand ducats: "Well then, it now appears you need my help; Go to, then; you come to me and say, 'Shylock we would have moneys' you say no; You say so, you that did void your rheum upon my beard And foot-me as you spurn a stran-

ger cur

Over your threshold; moneys is your suit. What should I say to you? Shall I bend low and in a bondman's key With bated breath and whispering humbleness say this: Fair Sir, you spit on me on Wednesday last; You spurned me such a day; another time You called me dog; and for these courtesies I'll lend you thus much moneys."

The analogy could be carried along to the "pound of flesh" compensation possibly to the consequences of making a too exorbitant demand—and the loss of the loan.

TODAY IN HISTORY

This, if all expectations are realized, will be an important day in the history of Canada and of this province. At Ottawa, decision is expected on the great question as to whether the Liberal government now functioning as if it had the right to do so, has the confidence of a majority in the House. It was decided on October 29th that it had lost the confidence of the people at large. Now, if it can claim the confidence of enough members of the House, whether the confidence of these constituents is included or not, the political machine will go on grinding, the seatless prime minister will look for a safe seat and his seatless ministers will do likewise. Of much more vital importance to Canada is the question whether those men, elected in opposition to Liberalism will find a reason now to support the party. This question involves honesty and integrity. A victory or defeat for the government will be only a temporary thing but personal victory or defeat of the members of the House has to do with the soul of the nation.

Today also will see a decision in the local bye-elections in the Summerside, Cardigan and Murray Harbour districts. The weather is favourable, the roads good and there is no reason why there should not be a strong vote. All the arguments have been advanced on both sides and decision rests with the electors. The result, whatever it may be, will not to any great extent affect the strength of the Stewart government which has an overwhelming majority in the House. The election of three government supporters in constituencies two of which have periodically been Conservative or Liberal and the other Liberal for many years, would be a strong and well-deserved commendation of the Stewart government and we have good reason to believe that this shall be achieved. However, elections and horse races, are still among the uncertainties and we can only hope that the best men and the best cause will win. Here's to the victors.

EDITORIAL NOTES

History is being made today in Canada. Electors of Summerside, Cardigan and Murray Harbour; vote early and often today. Parva sub ingenti would make a good motto for the Progressives. They are the little group under the big but, like Prince Edward Island whose motto also it is, they have a voice. There are still a few sleighs driving noiselessly over the silent snow without bells or other intimation that they are going to run over you. The police should keep their cars open for these illegal silences.

Notes By The Way

It happened one night during a session of the first Parliament that Hon. William Macdougall rose in his place in the House of Commons and addressing the Speaker remarked: "Mr. Speaker, I see a stranger in the gallery." There were hundreds of people in the different galleries of the House at the time, the Speaker's ladies, gentlemen and reporters' galleries, all being full of eager spectators attending upon an important debate.

"The Sergeant at Arms will clear the galleries," ordered the Speaker, and forthwith that important official proceeded to execute the order. It occupied him for perhaps half an hour, for those present were very reluctant to be thus summarily ejected.

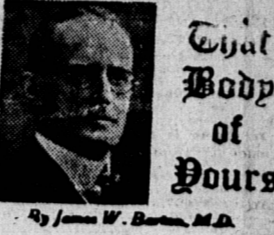
The incident, which has never been repeated during the past fifty years, was a reminder that all others than the members and officers and servants of the House are "strangers" in the House, are liable to be ejected, and in fact must be turned out of the Chamber, when any member of the House calls the Speaker's attention to their presence. On the occasion now referred to there were many important personages present, Senators, ex-Ministers and their wives and daughters, with the wives and near relatives of Ministers of the Crown then holding office.

We have not seen any recent mention made of the appearance in the House or its galleries of the Right Honourable William Lyon Mackenzie King, a former Prime Minister of Canada, who still claims to be Prime Minister. But if he were to appear either in the House or in any of its galleries while the House is in session he would be liable to be forthwith ejected, and all other spectators along with him precisely as occurred fifty odd years ago. "The law hath not been dead, though it hath slept" and a living Premier sitting in any part of Temple of Legislation with no more right than that of a mere stranger would be one of the rarest and most interesting incidents in parliamentary history. Is that the reason why he does not appear?

It happens just now that some 245 of the select men of all the provinces are gravely debating and considering the question of whether or not a majority of their number have confidence in this particular Stranger and in the scant remains of the Government he once led. This goes on while the Stranger keeps out of sight, and this is strange. And for a political leader to be thus dodging around in the background of the party he once led, unqualified to enter the House and apparently not seeking to qualify himself to take a seat in the House, this is stranger still.

Political parties are usually supposed to have confidence in their chosen leaders, but in this case the confidence of the members of the Liberal party is subjected to a severe strain. It is one thing to have full confidence in a chief who stands or sits at the head of his party, presiding at their councils directing their movements and fore most in the fight when the party is attacked. That is not Mr. King's position today, far from it. While his party is fighting for its life, he is not present, and is forbidden to enter the arena in which the conflict is going on. This is not a condition of things to inspire confidence among either Liberals or Progressives who once followed loyally and obediently in his train.

Other leaders are there in the forefront of the battle, Meighen strongly reinforced with redoubtable fighting men at his right hand and his left. Forke at the head of his little band of Progressives, sadly reduced in numbers, in the battle of October, and hesitating as to where he shall strike, but the Liberal Chief is not there. "He alone breaks from the van and the freeman he alone sinks to the rear and the slaves!" Surely this is in strange contrast with the days when the great Sir Wilfrid led the Liberal hosts, shouting his battle cry, "Follow my plume, you will find it on the road to victory." Confidence or non-confidence in the King Government, or in King of his government, that is the question of the hour. The country has spoken with the trumpet voice of a 200,000 majority in condemnation of the party.



SURGERY OR MEDICINE FOR ULCERS

One of our prominent surgeons makes a plea for the operation on a stomach or intestinal ulcer, if there is no improvement after two months' real strict medical treatment.

An ulcer is an ulcer anywhere. Whether it is on the leg or on the lining of the stomach, any irritation or injury to an ulcer anywhere is bound to prevent it from healing. This is the reason that ulcers of the stomach and intestine are so hard to heal, because in addition to having the walls moved by muscular action, there is the irritation from the food, and also the gastric or stomach juice "greatly irritates" the ulcer, once it has started.

This non-operative treatment, with investigation of the entire system for any infection, is bound to be of help to the patient's general health anyway, and often affects a cure. If non surgical treatment is persisted in for many months without improvement, the patient may not be in good shape to withstand the operation.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

January 14, 1926

THE MERCY OF GOD—"And when the morning arose, then the angels hastened Lot, saying, Arise! 'Escape for thy life.'" Gen. 19: 15-17.

PRAYER—O, Thou gracious and merciful God, we thank Thee for the divine compulsion that oft saves us from self-destruction.

CONSOLATION

"What would we do in this world of ours. Were it not for the dreams ahead? For thorns are mixed with the blooming flowers. No matter which path we tread."

"That dream ahead is what holds him up. Through the storms of a ceaseless fight; When his lips are pressed to the wormwoods cup. And clouds shut out the light."

"To some it's a dream of high estate. To some it's a dream of wealth; To some it's a dream of a truce with Fate. In a constant search for health."

"To some it's a dream of home and wife. To some it's a crown above; The dreams ahead are what makes each life a struggle. The dreams—and faith—and love!" —H. J. Ince.

of the government. Individual constitutions have defeated the Premier and eight of his Governmental colleagues. Is not that enough? Now the defeated champions of a bastard Liberalism, unworthy of the name of the Liberalism once honored and respected, are seeking, begging, imploring the Progressive members to give them a parliamentary coat of whiteness.

Robert Forke is asked to apply the brush. Will he do it? We must wait and see! We must wait, but not very long. Mr. Forke must realize that if he does the work whatever may be the present reward in promise or fulfillment, the hand that wields the brush will at the same moment have signed the death warrant of the Progressive party.

THE DRAMA AT OTTAWA SEEN THROUGH ISLAND EYES

(By R. L. COTTON) (Special to The Guardian)

There has been much speculation over the week end as to what will happen next in the political situation. There is great variety in the theories and as the city is full of overflying those whose principal concern in life is with government and governments there is naturally a great wagging of tongues. But it's the way the votes are cast on the floor of the house that counts. If six out of the Progressive and Independent groups should vote with the Conservatives on the Confidence motion the Government will be defeated.

On Saturday afternoon I had a good look over the Diesel oil electric trains which have been talked about for the Prince Edward Island railway. Three of them are being operated to and from Ottawa at present. One of the larger type runs between Ottawa and Montreal. It has seats for ninety first class and thirty-six second class passengers and quite a large compartment for baggage. In appearance the whole train is very much like two ordinary coaches or like two large street cars coupled together. The engine has a small compartment by itself. It is an eight cylinder oil engine of four hundred horsepower and its shaft is connected direct to an electric generator. When the engine is running and the train standing still there is a rather unpleasant vibration. But when the train starts it runs as smoothly and rides as comfortably as a heavy steam train.

The trainmen told me there is practically no limit to their speed. The one that crossed the continent from Montreal to Vancouver in seventy-two hours broke all transcontinental train records, and on runs where there are many stops such as we have on P. E. I. their advantage over steam trains will be even more apparent for they stop and start so quickly. The two smaller cars running out of Ottawa are the same as the one that runs between Sackville and Truro. The engine is much smaller with only four cylinders. Speed is just as great but there is accommodation for only about fifty passengers. It is to be hoped that a good test of this new type of train will be made on Prince Edward Island this year. The run from Charlottetown to Summerside has not been done in less than two hours, to Tignish in not more than four. Mixed freight and passenger trains are no longer good enough for P. E. I. They are too uncomfortable and too slow. The great expense of adding more trains has been the objection to separating passenger and freight traffic with us heretofore. These new oil electric trains will go far towards solving the problem.

At Confederation the population of Ottawa was just a little greater than that of Charlottetown. Today the population of Ottawa is greater than the population of the whole of Prince Edward Island was at its highest point. Hull has another twenty-five thousand just across the River and as a business centre the two cities are practically one with nearly 150,000 souls. It can readily be seen that in the steady growth that has characterized Ottawa since Confederation there have been many opportunities for advancement and for the accumulation of large fortunes, apart altogether from the opportunities offered by its being the seat of Government. But there are to be seen a good many vacant premises, some bankruptcies, numerous evidences of strenuous competition and of the unsatisfied struggle for an existence altogether pleasing. One does not need to be homesick to realize that Charlottetown has many advantages over Ottawa as a place of residence and that the condition of the progressive young farmer of Prince Edward Island is one that in many respects altogether beyond comparison with that of the dependent and subservient wage earner or departmental official in this as in the other bigger cities of the land.

O'Leary Appeal Case Judgment Of Supreme Court

CANADA, PROVINCE OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND IN THE SUPREME COURT

Harry Champion (Defendant) Appellant; Kathleen Taylor (Complainant) Respondent. Dated 12th January, 1926.

JUDGMENT OF CHIEF JUSTICE MATHIESON.

This is an appeal from a conviction made by Richard Jeffery and H. B. Heustis, two of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for Prince County, on the 28th day of July A. D. 1925 upon a complaint of the Respondent that on the 22nd day of July A. D. 1925 the Appellant "did unlawfully enter on a public street in the village of O'Leary in Prince County aforesaid and obstructed passengers by running into them with a bicycle on which he was riding," and the said Justices of the Peace adjudged the appellant guilty and that said offence he be fined in the sum of five dollars and should also pay to the respondent the sum of thirty three dollars and eighty cents for costs and a default of payment he should be imprisoned in the common jail of said County for a period of one month.

When the case came on to be heard before me at Summerside on the 28th day of November last objection was taken by counsel for the respondent that the Notice of Appeal was bad principally because it did not set forth the penalty imposed by the conviction.

This is a defect which might have a serious effect in any case where uncertainty in regard to the conviction intended to be appealed against could arise, but in the present case, such a possibility does not appear and the particulars, given in the notice, are sufficient to identify the subject of appeal. Another question raised by counsel for the appellant was that exclusive jurisdiction over the case was vested in the magistrate appointed by a meeting of the rate payers of O'Leary in pursuance of an Act of the Legislature of this Province, 10 & 11 George 5, Cap 25, entitled "An Act for the better government of the Village of O'Leary." This statute does not profess to give an exclusive jurisdiction to the magistrate appointed under its provisions. The convicting magistrates having a general jurisdiction in the County of Prince were therefore competent to adjudicate upon this case.

The offence charged is described by Sec. 238 of The Criminal Code as Vagrancy and the applicable provisions of the section are:—"Every person is a loose idle or disorderly person or vagrant who (a. s. a) lingers on any street, road, highway or public place and obstructs passengers by standing across the footpath or by using insulting language or in any other way." The evidence given is conflicting to an unusual degree as to specific facts which, in the view I take of the case, are not essential to be proved. The essential question to be determined is: Was the defendant loitering on a public road or street and obstructing the com-

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able invasion of complainant's rights. His conduct in this instance, and the motive which inspired it, serves to interpret his previous conduct towards the defendant on that day and to bring him within the statutory definition of a loose, idle and disorderly person loitering on a public pathway and obstructing the complainant in the manner described.

Some evidence was given of the defendant's general good character, and from his appearance and conduct on the stand I can readily believe it notwithstanding his misconduct on July 22nd. I have no doubt that in placing the penalty so low the magistrates took into consideration that fact, together with his youth, and that he had been encouraged, at least to a degree, as he did by exceedingly bad advice.

I consider the penalty adjudged by the magistrates to be just and reasonable and that the conviction should be affirmed. The appeal is therefore dismissed with costs of this appeal and of the Court below.

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