

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE COMING SESSION

MR. KING'S RECORD

The Provincial Legislature is according to the St. John Standard slated to meet on March 14th. For the new King Cabinet may be the first time in the history of the busy solving Canada's serious Province, about one-fifth of our problems, but the only sign of ac-

These two explanations, the only ones forthcoming so far, will no doubt be coordinated somehow by way of further hoodwinking the people. Another explanation that is being eagerly looked for is with reference to the poll tax on out-

THE COST OF STRIKES

Undoubtedly a large proportion of the high cost of living is due to waste incident to strikes. The many idle days, the shortage in production and the innumerable expenses arising out of idleness make up an aggregate waste which years of hard work cannot atone for.

The Province of Quebec at present in the throes of a printers' strike which is arousing so little interest. The strike is directed from Indianapolis, U. S.—a feature which is very properly arousing a great deal of resentment.

LIBERAL DEMONSTRATION

Another "great Liberal demonstration" was held in Quebec last week ostensibly to pay tribute to Minister of Marine La Pointe and at the same time to celebrate the Liberal victory of December 6th, but in reality to explain that many things promised before the election are not going to be carried out, and also to explain that some of the failures that have occurred since the election were triumphs of diplomacy on the part of the Liberal leaders.

This disposes of the "all-round reduction" in the tariff promised by the Liberal candidates before the election and which constituted the principal plank in their platform. Premier King explained that although he had made a strong effort to induce the Progressives to come into his cabinet he had little faith in such a coalition government as would have resulted had his efforts been successful and he thinks now that the country will get along very well without such coalition.

Others' View Points

Husband and Wife

(London Advertiser) While the divorce courts of many lands are grinding away daily, and with the cartoonists and paragrappers making capital out of Mr. Henpeck, it comes as somewhat of a relief to run across the tribute of a man written about his wife.

William Belford Glazier, 47 Essex street, Starn, London, Eng., died a few weeks ago. He left his estate of some £18,000 to his wife, and with the will the following: "I wish to express in this my will that I fell in love with my dear wife at first sight. She saved my life and devoted her abilities, her energy, and life and affection on my behalf. We have never quarrelled, and I have never said an unkind word to her in my life. Our life has been spent together with the exception of one night spent in a house of rest at the doctor's request after an operation."

"No words could express the devotion my dear wife showed for me. She was described by a celebrated French actress as the dearest little lady London or Paris had produced. My wife was respected by all with whom she came in contact. She had all her life God's blessing, which she was entitled to."

"We hope to live and die simultaneously, which we trust we shall do. United in life, united in death; living we hope in a happier world in heaven, a life with Elsie, was to live in Elysium. To conclude, I say no better woman ever lived."

"No, this wasn't in the movies, or on the stage, or in ancient history. It took place just a few weeks ago. It is refreshing, sacred and beautiful."

ONLY A DREAM

(Westminster Gazette)

Although there has been no English Pope since Nicholas Breakspear—and that was a long time ago—there was once an Anglican pope of more recent date, who dreamed that he had been elected to St. Peter's Chair. The dream came to Dean Stanley, a few nights after an audience granted him by His Holiness, the Pope.

"The intelligence of my election," Stanley relates, "was communicated to me as a secret not to be known till the next day. My immediate difficulty was what name I should take. I thought Paul would be suitable, but then the last Paul was Paul V. I should be Paul VI.; and then there was that fatal omen 'Six' which, as the Latin distich runs, has ever been the ruin of Rome. In this mind I went on to the Athenaeum, and there met Jacobson, Bishop of Chester, who guessed my secret. 'Why not take the name of Gulelmus?' he said, this being his own name. I turned. I wrapped myself in a blanket—the nearest approach I could find to the greatest which I had left behind at the Athenaeum. I walked along the dusty Flaminian Way, and there met many groups of Cardinals. It seemed to me that the blanket so nearly resembled the white flannel gown which the Pope usually wears that the secret would be known before its publication in the Times next day; and in that agony I woke."

Daily Selections for Guardian Readers

From the collection of the late Mr. W. S. Louson

SECRET THOUGHTS

I hold it true that thoughts are things Endowed with being, breath and wings And that we send them forth to fill The world with good results or ill. That which we call our secret thought Speeds to the earth's remotest spot And leaves its blessings or its woes Like tracks behind it as it goes.

It is God's law, remember it In your still chamber as you sit. With thoughts you would not dare have known. And you made comrades when alone. These thoughts have life, and they will fly And leave their impress by and by. Like some marsh breeze, whose poisonous breath Breathes into homes its fevered death.

And, after you have quite forgot Or all outgrown some vanished thought, Back to your mind to make it home. A dove or raven, it will come, Then let your secret thoughts be full. They have a vital part and share In shaping worlds and moulding fate. God's system is so intricate.

Notes By The Way

(From The Examiner.)

Our new Mayor and City Councilors have need to look to their laurels, possibly to mend their ways. New brooms are said to sweep clean and are expected to do so, but the first few weeks of the new regime are not altogether so reassuring as citizens could wish. Take the condition of our sidewalks for an instance.

We have along our principal streets and thoroughfares an excellent lot of concrete footways. We are justly proud of them—in summer. They cost the taxpayers a good round sum in dollars, but are well worth their cost when we can see them and use them. Unfortunately there are, in this country about five months of the year when we can see little of them, because they are mostly covered with snow or ice, or slush and water. This winter pedestrians have found the sidewalks more than usually out of sight, obstructed and dangerous.

Of course, there have been a good many snow and sleet storms, thaws and that sort of thing. And many people have been dilatory or delinquent about making the footways passable in front of the premises. It is always thus in a civic election year. The snow-by-law is always neglected in enforcement by the outgoing councilors, especially those who seek reelection. Lazy or dilatory householders always take advantage of this lenity. The new Council does not like to begin their reign by a rigid enforcement of the by-laws.

The result of these conditions is that under both the old Council and more so under the new, the streets, sidewalks and gutters have been in a shocking condition, the worst for years past. And the outlook for the coming half of winter with the March snowstorms yet to come, is rather appalling unless the civic authorities wake up to their duty. The civic tax gatherers are prompt and efficient enough in attending to their duties which is commendable, but where is the city snow plough? What has it been doing all winter?

There are plenty of men out of employment to whom a few days work at fair wages would be a God-send. The winter is cold, coal is still high and rents are far above pre-war rates. Citizens are asked to contribute to a coal fund to help some honest and willing, but idle workers through the cold winter, an excellent movement and seldom more needed. It is not by any means as if labor were scarce or unobtainable. Why is it then that the city's part in keeping our surface drainage and street crossings in order is being neglected?

As it is, the obstructed and icy sidewalks are, and have been notoriously unsightly, difficult to walk upon, but absolutely dangerous. Especially is this true at night time and for the many whose sight has partially failed, the old and the lame. What use to them are our concrete sidewalks in the winter months, if present conditions are to continue? About as much use as a feed of oats to a horse, if placed where it cannot reach them.

We are in danger of getting back to the penny-wise, pound-foolish and narrow-gauge policy of past days, still prevalent in certain quarters that are well known. The snow fallen and drifted on the sidewalks by one storm is at best but partially cleared away before another storm is upon us. Our Lewis Baiting Building and the walks leading thereto are left snowed up in much the same fashion, while on the Dominion Railway narrow-gauge engines and cars vainly struggle to get through the drifts and the ice. The Post Office approaches have, on the contrary been well attended to.

Railways and public buildings and sidewalks are costly things at the best and when the people have the use of them. They are doubly costly when we pay for them and cannot use them. At such times we are "paying for dead horses," the price of narrow-gauge inefficiency in place of the real efficiency which, we ought to have but do not get. Is it not true?

There are too many hibernating officials, in our civic, provincial and national affairs. The sleeping sickness that is not caused by the African fly is abroad in the land. But there is this to be said for our City Councilors, that they serve us without pay and they have been heretofore the most efficient and economical of all the triple powers that be above us. The rule seems to be among these powers, "the more pay, the less work." And if even our City Councilors

Tobacco Important In Diplomacy

Tobacco is said to have played an important part in the recent Washington conference since most of the diplomats indulged in it in some form or other. There was no smoking, of course, in the formal conferences open to the public, but in the quiet preliminary discussions, where wrinkles were ironed out, tobacco, which someone has nicknamed the soothing weed, had a mollifying effect. Pipes, cigars and cigarettes helped to put the diplomats in a conciliatory frame of mind and developed a sentiment of comradeship that might otherwise have been not so easily established. But this is only what has happened at other important gatherings of diplomats in the past. As Frederick Dunlop-Gwyn points out, tobacco has always been an implement of diplomacy. Statesmen who are diplomats of the hand learned that it was not well for them to spend long hours in wild discussions devoid of the sedative to which they were accustomed. Their nerves did not improve and their brains did not work so well as when they were taking their snuff or smoking their cigars.

Cigarette vs Snuff

At the Congress of Vienna, when an attempt was made to reconstruct the map of the world after the Napoleonic wars, the snuff box played the same part that the cigarette and the cigarette player played at Washington, but in the opinion of Mr. Owen, the cigarette has the advantage of a snuff box as a diplomatic weapon. One cannot indefinitely prolong the business of taking a pinch of snuff, but at critical moments it is easy for a diplomat to become suddenly absorbed in his cigarette.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—Robert Hoffman, of West New Brighton, N. Y., who sued against Mrs. Luce Hoffman for divorce, was permitted the cigarette to go on in the meantime he has had an opportunity to collect his thoughts and consider the proper answer to make. Or, if he chooses, he can pretend to have been so concerned over the behavior of his cigar that he did not hear the remark addressed to him. It is on this account that today there is hardly any Minister of State or Ambassador who is not provided with his cigarette case, whether he is a smoker or not, and which he regards not as an object of personal luxury, but as part of the indispensable paraphernalia of his office.

Russians and Moslems.

The Russians—who before the war were always credited with the most subtle diplomacy of any European or Asiatic power, were invariably provided with finer cigarettes than any of their foreign colleagues. They believed that this little detail gave them many an advantage in diplomatic encounters. On the other hand, the late Khedive Tewfik of Egypt owed to the wretched quality of the cigarettes he pressed upon visitors much of the bullying and hectoring which he received at the hands of the various Ministers and Comsuls accredited to his court. Etiquette demanded that they should make the vile cigarette the Khedive offered them, but the effect of the tobacco on them was not such as to conduce to good feeling. The reason the Khedive's tobacco was so bad was that he was not a smoker and was made a victim of some rascally tobaccoist. It is interesting to learn from Mr. Owen that, contrary to common opinion, Moslem rulers as a rule refrain from smoking.

Sultans Non-smokers

The late Abdul Hamid, who reigned as Sultan of Turkey for thirty years, did not smoke, though in almost every cartoon in which he appeared he was represented as sucking at a hookah. Neither of his two brothers and successors, Mahomet V. and Mahomet VI, used tobacco. A distaste of it may have been partly responsible for their abstention, but a more important reason is found in their affiliation with the all-powerful and mysterious Order of the Senussi which embraces some thirty million.

They are cutting down the pay of the railway men and other workers under the pretext that the cost of living has fallen. If they are honest and fair they will cut down their own pay at once. But will they do it? Economy is a good thing if it is reasonable, unselfish, and begins at the right place. And the right place is in the parliament at Ottawa and the Legislature at Charlottetown. Let them cut down the salary grab first and foremost!

ion Moslems. The doctrines of this Order are the most orthodox of Islam, and tobacco is absolutely prohibited for members. As vehicles of dissipation, both liquor and tobacco are banned among Mahometans, although they grow the finest tobacco in the world. Nevertheless, the Mahomedans have established no worthy records in the matter of morality, and it may be that the absence of tobacco has caused many of them to smoke opium and become addicted to other drugs.

End-of-the-Snuff Era

The last international conference at which the snuff box predominated was held in Paris at the end of the Crimean war. Among the mementoes which those attending it received from Napoleon III. and from the rulers of other nations represented at the Council Board were jeweled snuff boxes, some of them worth many thousands of dollars. We are told that some were immediately turned into cash, while others were used in the construction of some ornament of dress. Others remain as family heirlooms and the rest have found their way into museums. At the Congress of Berlin, which Mr. Balfour attended as the secretary of his uncle, Lord Salisbury, there were only two snuff takers, Lord Beaconsfield and Prince Gortchakoff. Prince Bismarck smoked his abominable German pipe, but the others used cigars and cigarettes. The last English statesman to retain the snuff box at his side when receiving important visitors in the Foreign Office was Lord Rosebery, who is the owner of one of the greatest collections of snuff boxes ever put together.

SAYS WIFE WAS A "WIDOW"

NEW YORK, Feb. 25—Robert Hoffman, of West New Brighton, N. Y., who sued against Mrs. Luce Hoffman for divorce, was permitted the cigarette to go on in the meantime he has had an opportunity to collect his thoughts and consider the proper answer to make. Or, if he chooses, he can pretend to have been so concerned over the behavior of his cigar that he did not hear the remark addressed to him. It is on this account that today there is hardly any Minister of State or Ambassador who is not provided with his cigarette case, whether he is a smoker or not, and which he regards not as an object of personal luxury, but as part of the indispensable paraphernalia of his office.

Hoffman added that he had been informed also that the wife received Heede's personal effects and insurance as well as a subscription raised by Heede's fellow employees at the Hudson Motor Company. Mrs. Hoffman did not defend the suit. Decision was reserved.

CLERGYMAN FOUND POISONED

LONDON, Feb. 25—Rev. Albert Edwin Allaby, recently a curate at Mansfield, who for some years before coming to England, held a variety of clerical positions in Nova Scotia, was found poisoned by prussic acid in a bedroom in a Nottingham hotel.

Was Rector of Joggins.

Halifax, Feb. 25—Rev. Albert Edwin Allaby came to Nova Scotia from England in 1906 and was variously stationed at Lockeport, New Ross, La Have and Joggins, from whence he returned to the Old Country in 1917. When last heard from he was reported to be attached to the British legation at Bern, Switzerland. He was married previous to coming to Nova Scotia and had three children at the time of his return to England.

A thought for today BY HYNDMAN'S THINKER



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