THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Election Promises

In the closing session of the Legislature under the Stewart Government the leader of the House, Hon J. D. Stewart, produced the election platform on which his party had gone to the country in 1923 and read over, clause by clause, the promises then made, explaining in detail, clearly and to the satisfaction of the country, the manner in which each had been fulfilled.

It is surely a significant fact that at no time since the Saunders-Lea Government assumed power has the Liberal election platform been produced by a single member or supporter of the Government. Instead of reviewing its pre-election promises as the Stewart Government did in 1927, the Lea Government and its party press have endeavored, on every possible occasion, to distract attention from provincial issues by criticism of the Bennett Government's election promises.

But this criticism fools nobody, least of all those who are in touch with Parliamentary affairs. The Bennett Government, although in power only a few months, has already implemented several of its election promises and it assumes full responsibility for the rest. The Lea Government, on the eve of a general election, is evidently ashamed even to mention the platform on which it secured power in 1927!

So far as the Bennett Government is concerned, it can well afford to challenge comparison either with the Lea Government or with the federal administration which it succeeded. In this connection we commend to our readers the following statement by Premier Bennett, delivered in the House of Commons on April 21:

"This government is not in any way, shape or form seeking to escape responsibility. This government seeks no quarter so far as criticism of its actions is concerned. This government realizes that it has come into power at a very, very serious moment in the life of the body politic. It will to the very best of the ability of its members who constitute it discharge its duties as befits Canadians who are trustees for all their fellow citizens. Unswerved from their course by abuse, undeterred by vilification or misrepresentation from any quarter, they will go farward to discharge the duties that the people have placed upon them. If it becomes necessary to ascertain facts, the standing committees of this House are always available. But the government will never palter with its principles in order to retain power. No, if the moment ever comes when the majority of this House conclude it to be desirable that this Government should go out, it will go out, but there will be no vacillation, no paltering with the opinions of others to secure support in order that it may continue in power."

Remaining Monarchies

With Spain converted into a republic, there are still 12 monarchies remaining on the continent of Europe. Although the last 21 years have seen eight monarchies topple over beneath the impact of democratic ideas, economic crises and the great World War, the belief in monarchy as a valuable governmental institution is far from dissipated in the Old World.

Not only do pretenders exist for the thrones which have been vacated in the recent past, but each pretender has a circle of followers, and Europe contains many monarchists who are not devoted to any one person, but to the theory that monarchy is an advantageous institution for society to maintain.

The European monarchies remaining, and their rulers, are:

Albania—Zog I., who made himself monarch after being a dictator, and who helps maintain Italian influence in the Balkan peninsula.

Belgium—Albert I., one of the heroic figures of the World War.

Bulgaria—Boris III., son of the Czar Ferdinand, whose alignment with the central powers during the World War brought his downfall. Boris recently married a daughter of the King of Italy.

Denmark—Christian X.

Italy—Victor Emanuel III., slightly overshadowed by the rule of the Fascist dictator, Benito Mussolini.

Jugoslavia—Alexander I.

Netherlands— Wilhelmina, whose heir is another woman, Princess Juliana.

Norway—Haakon VII.

Rumania—King Carol II., the reformed expatriate whose extramarital adventures have entertained a world-wide reading public.

Luxembourg — Grand Duchess Charlotte, one of five sisters.

Monaco—Prince Louis II., proprietor of Monte Carlo, and owner of one of the world's greatest aquariums—the only ruler on earth whose subjects pay no taxes.

Sweden—Gustave V., descendant of the Napoleonic General Bernadotte.

A Trick That Failed

The "surplus" rabbit trick, staged by the Lea Government, was so effectively disposed of in the Opposition leader's masterly speech on the Budget, that it left the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, who followed Mr. Stewart in the debate, without a leg to stand on. His only explanation for the apparent doubling of the interest charges last year was that in the 1929 Accounts this item had been improperly presented. He made no attempt to account for the fact, shown convincingly by Mr. Stewart, that there was an actual deficit on current account of $32,882 and a total increased indebtedness under the present Government of over three quarters of a million dollars. And when he attempted to capitalize the so-called "evidence" taken by the Liberal members of the Public Accounts Committee he only exposed that "evidence" for what it was——barefaced political propaganda concocted and published at the expense of the taxpayers of this Province.

The Racket's Toll

The extent to which the racketeers in the United States levy tribute from the merchants and manufacturers of that country is indeed astounding. According to the United States Crime Commission the toll exacted by the various racketeering gangs in that country now amounts to the staggering total of twelve to eighteen billion dollars a year. There is a wide margin between those figures, because no income tax returns are submitted by the racketeers from which reliable data can be compiled. But, even if the lower figure be authentic, it is enough to make one gasp. In New York State the aggregate is about $400,000,000, mostly from New York City.

There could be little better evidence than these figures of the size to which criminal activities can grow if unchecked, or better argument for the exercise of the greatest precaution to prevent their obtaining a hold in this country.

Editorial Notes

Toronto newspapers have been announcing that, at the end of the present academic year Sir Robert Falconer, one of Prince Edward Island's most distinguished sons, will retire from the presidency of Toronto University. Sir Robert, who is sixty-four, and had intended retiring next year, in any case, has not been in good health of late, and has just returned from a two-months' trip to the West Indies.

Mr. G. Shelton Sharp's maiden speech as a member of the Legislature was delivered in the course of the budget debate yesterday afternoon. Mr. Sharp, among other things, dealt very fully with the extravagant road policy of the Lea Government. His arguments were clear-cut and convincing, and his speech made a most favorable impression. The electors of Second Prince may well be proud of the candidate whom they returned with such enthusiasm at the recent by-election

Notes by the Way

What aviation is doing in eliminating distances and bringing far places near is strikingly illustrated by the records just established on two long flights—that of Commander Glen Kidson, who travelled from England to Capetown, South Africa, seven and a half thousand miles in seven and a half days, and that of C. W. A. Scott, a former Royal Air Force Flyer, over the longer distance from England to Australia in less than nine and one-quarter days.

Germany is the latest nation to report a decrease in the number of unemployed, the total having fallen some two hundred thousand in the last two weeks. It almost looks as if the worst has been passed in the world-wide economic depression. Just as the beginning of a period of depression is cumulative in its effects, so the upward swing gathers force from its own momentum when it begins. Putting some men to work means more money in circulation, more goods bought, more employment for other workers, who in turn create a market for more goods, and so on.

In the United States half the population is confined to cities and the estimate is that in a quarter of a century two-thirds of the population will be city dwellers. Already a campaign of back to the land has been commenced and a somewhat similar campaign is under way in Quebec. Perhaps one reason for the movement to cities may be found in the fact that a lower standard of education is available in rural communities, much less pretentious school houses and teachers who are second rate. State education should imply equal opportunities for all. It does not, so long as the facilities in the agricultrual communities are not equal in every respect to those that obtain in the cities. Then again so far as is at all possible all the amenities of civilization should be made available in rural districts. Democracy claims the right to the enjoyment of equal privileges and where these are not available discontent arises. This is one of the causes of the trend to the cities. Those who see in motion picture houses a part of the scheme of life will go where they can get them. The present-day movement is a revolt against the rustication of the mind.

Too often those who speculate on the Stock Exchange do not understand what they are doing. Dealing on the Stock Exchange is no game. When one wants to play a game of chance all one has to do is to go to the racecourse or some place where they play Roulette. The Stock Exchange is nothing like that. It is a market just like any other, and the client is always responsible for the deal he puts through. If he makes a point of not forgetting this, he will be saved many a pang of remorse.

The movement to secure a reinstitution of the death penalty in Michigan is the outgrowth of a realization that an effective, suppressive weapon, not now at the command of the Commonwealth, must be acquired for use in a general war of defence against organized, professional bandits, who are public enemies in the same sense that the pirates of the Spanish Maine were public enemies, and who have all the evil of the buccaneers. These bandits can be dealt with effectively in only one way, and that by applying methods of extermination such as were used in ridding the world of piracy. A dead bandit commits no robberies, rapes or assassinations; and he is the only kind of bandit that doesn't.

The Montreal Star reiterates the rumor that the Conservative party, Federal and Provincial, will soon have in Montreal the most up-to-date permanent organization in this country. Though it is impossible to obtain official information on the subject, it is learned that negotiations are underway to buy the Metropole building at the corner of Notre Dame street and St. Lawrence Boulevard, and to install in it the general offices of the party. The price involved is said to be $500,000. All activities of the Conservative organization would be centralized there. Other parts of the building would be rented, so as to bring a substantial revenue to the party. Part of the organization is already situated there, while the other is in Versailles building.

Despite all the discussion that has taken place regarding the unwholesome hoarding of the world's gold in the United States, that nation's store of the yellow metal continues to mount. On April 9th the Federal Reserve Board at Washington announced that its monetary gold stocks had reached $4,706,000,000, a new high record for all time. One reason, and probably the chief reason, for this continued accumulation, is found in the fact that the neighboring Rupublic is importing fewer commodities from outside, and that as a consequence other nations have to make payment in gold. Another reason is, of course, found in the heavy war debt payments made from time to time by the Republic's former allies in the Great War. As the world's total monetary stock of the metal is only $10,900,000,000, the present situation is most unhealthy. It deprives many nations of adequate gold bases for their monetary and credit machinery. The majority of economists feel that if the gold hoarded in the United States could be distributed, in some measure at least, a long step would thereby be taken towards the re-establishment of world prosperity.

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

HOW WORRY KILLS.

A famous professional man a few years ago had a nervous breakdown. He was doing a tremendous amount of work, and his breakdown was attributed to overwork.

He was a man of strong phisique but after an illness extending over a few months he finally died.

What was really the cause of his breakdown or collapse.

It was not the hard work, but a secret sorrow that so unnerved him that he could not eat or sleep, and so his whole body simply broke down because it was not cared for properly.

Behind every case of "nervous breakdown" or "breakdown from overwork," is likely a story of lack of sleep, a sluggish liver from lack of exercise or physicial work, constipation, no outdoor air, poor appetite and irregular meals. And the underlaying cause is not work but worry.

Trying to do any mental work under these conditions is just the last straw, and there is a collapse.

Eugene Ferson says "Worry is a leak through which energy is wastfully dissipated in the unknown void of the future instead of ebing constructively applied in the present."

I believe that if we thought of worry as a leak through which we were losing a large part of our supply of energy, just as a cut or torn blood vessel will cause such a loss of blood that life is endangered, we would stop the leak just as we prevent the loss of blood.

Worry wears us out in two ways.

First, as we think constantly of the thing that is worrying us it keeps a portion of our mind always active, in addition to which we try to do our regular mental work. This means a double amount of mental effort.

Second, the other organs of the body all have their work interfered with; the stomach fails to mix the food with the digestive juice properly, because its movements are lessened in number and strength; digestive juices from the liver, stomach, and pancreas are likewise lessened in amount and quality; the absorption of food from the small intestine into the blood is interfered with; the large intestine fails to act regularly allowing absorption of waste matter into the blood; the heart beats more rapidly as the mind dwells on the matter causing the worry; the juices of some of the ductless glands is increased and others lessened thus interfering with the regulating mechanism-the regulator-of the body processes.

The Poet's Corner

THE RETREAT

Happy those early days, when I
Shined in my Angel-Infancy.
Before I undrestood this place
Appointed for my second race,
Or taught my soul to fancy aught
But a white, celestial though;
When yet I had not walked above
A mile or two from my first Love,
And looking back, at that short space
Could see a glimpse of His bright face;
When on some gilded cloud or flower
My gazing soul would dwell an hour,
And in those weaker glories spy
Some shadows of eternity;
Before I taught my tongue to wound
My conscience with a sinful sound,
Or had the black art to dispense
A several sin to every sense,
But felt through all this fleshly dress
Bright shoots of everlastingness.

O how I long to travel back,
And tread again that ancient track!
That I might once more reach that plain,
Where first I left my glorious train;
From whence the enlightened spirit sees
That shady city of palm trees!
But ah! my soul with too much stay
Is drunk, and staggers in the way!
Some men a forward motion love,
But I by backward steps would move;
And when this dust falls to the urn,
In that state I came, return.

—Henry Vaughan (1622-1695)

Bennett Government Commended By Leading Liberal Newspaper

Leading Editorial from the Toronto Globe (Liberal) of April 21

Soviet Russia's ban on imports from Canada was to be expected, following the action of the Canadian Government, and should serve a useful purpose in directing the attention of the world to the courageous leadership the Dominion has given.

The monetary loss to Canadian business amounts to little. Exports in the calendar years 1929 were $3,403,000, and in 1930, $1,689,000 while imports were, respectively, $909,000 and $1,964,000, a favorable balance of $2,500,000, thus becoming an adverse balance of $170,000. These figures are small compared with Canada's total trade. They are more important as revealing what has become recognized as Russia's jockeying trade policy, described by Sir Arthur Balfour as "skilfully playing off one nation against the other to greatly extend their terms of credit." If Russia were able to implement her proposal to pay in gold for two-thirds of a $10,000,000 purchase here, it would be because of her manipulation of trade elsewhere. Some other country would have to pay for it. Great Britain has been trying for six months, without success, to make some arrangement with the Soviet representatives for the settlement of standing debts, and in the meantime Moscow has been piling up new debts through longterm credits. Last year she managed to get $110,000,000 worth of products into the United Kingdom by taking $30,000,000 worth in return. The Canadian Government is fully justified in trying to prevent this country from stepping into a noose, no matter how attractive may be the bauble dangling beneath it.

Trade cannot be carried on successfully with a country utterly lacking in moral or business principles. Canada is well out of it for her own sake. She is escaping the costly lessons which other nations must experience if they continue pulling the Soviet chestnuts out of the fire, although she is paying dearly in loss of markets while those nations, and particularly Great Britain, keep grasping at the shadow and overlooking the substance.

Business leaders in every major trading country recognizes Russia's methods of doing business as a menace to the well-being of the world. Comments from a few of them might be read with profit:

Mr. Rene Duchemin of France: "The Russian monopoly is unloading upon the world markets vast quantities of goods that have more than sufficed to throw into disorder markets already oversaturated, and these massive sales are accompanied by prices lowered to a point where often the consumer only has to pay the value of the raw material used."

Mr. Silas H. Strawn, United States: "One great menace—perhaps the greatest menace—to the recovery of normal economic conditions throughout the world is the practice of the Soviet Government of selling commodities at any price. Obviously such a practice disloates markets, impairs stability, and materially affects business conditions."

Mr. Gustave L. Gerard, Belgium: "We have felt the reactions of dumping in every sphere, but the Belgian Government has taken the necessary measures, and a recent royal decree submits Russian grain and certain other industrial products, such as glue, stearine and oleine, to a system of import licence. This is an indication that, although a free-trade country, Belgium is properly obliged to close its door when made the object of measures such as Russia has employed."

Mr. Josef Cachs, Sweden: "Russia of today is in an especially good position to indulge in well-organized dumping. I am thinking of the low standard of living of the Russian people that is continually falling, and of the large number of prisoners that their Government can use to obtain cheaper labor than in any other country of Europe or the United States. Another thing that must not be lost sight of is that Russian dumping is not an economic but a political act, the primary aim of which is to undermine the various markets of Europe and of the United States. In order to do this more effectively the attack has been launched upon just those markets that would feel it most."

Sir Felix Schuster, Bart., England: "It seems certain, he had been informed by good authorities, that the policy of the Soviet aimed at destroying the economic structure, and through this also the political structure, not only of the neighboring countries, but of the whole world. This question would have to be faced. Their evident object was to create political unrest that would undermine all social system, and the very basis of our civilization.... Personally, he believed it would be best to break off all commercial relations with that country."

All of these authorities, and others who could be quoted similarly, are favorable to policies which will keep international trade channels open. Some of them are absolute free-traders. They are not moved in their attitude toward Russia, therefore, by any wish to restrict legitimate business. On the contrary, they find that sound business principles call for the defeat of Soviet methods.

Belgium has taken official action to meet the menace. Business men in Spain decided to reject Russian lumber regardless of price, as a matter of principle. The tendency in the United States is to restrict the credit of the Soviet because it is believed that Russian financial structure will collapse and bills will not be met.

Canada has done what Sir Felix Schuster believes should be done generally. Russia can trade only at the expense of others

The Public Forum

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions of correspondents.

WHAT SAITH MR. LEPAGE

Sir—I believe the Hon. Mr. LePage is in favor of the citizens of Charlottetown having the privilege of seeing the City Assessment Roll. How about the boks in the Provincial Tax Office? Have the people access to them? It would certainly be interesting to know what system they follow in assessing the public for Income and Personal Property Tax. Not as laid down in the Act at all events. The city has both an assessor and a Court of Appeal, while under the government the assessor is also the Court of Appeal. Which is the better system Mr. LePage?

I am sir, etc.

CITIZEN

ROCKY POINT FERRY

Sir—As we peruse our papers and being a constant observer, we find much room for thought, of proceedings in general. In this day of modernism and the great struggle to keep abreast with the times, to cope with the situation before us, we must of necessity make the most of every possibility that comes within our reach.

Our agricultural pursuits are of paramount importance, and we learn of great facilities put forth to that end. Since the potato industry came into the limelight to such a great extent, naturally transportation followed in its wake, therefore to relieve past conditions we see a great deal being done so that the industry may not be handicapped, large sheds being built here and there in every necessary locality, and means made available whereby shipping may be carried on with as little loss of time and labor as possible. Were it not for persistent efforts by progressive people would we have the Car Ferry and now a second one in building to relieve congestion, etc.

In a recent issue of the Guardian we note that some of the progressive people on the South side of Elliot River, who have to cross the Ferry at Rocky Point to ship their produce, have found fit to look for better service on that route, and justly so, as there has been no improvement in the past twenty five years or more, regardless of the produce to be handled. The writer has seen teams on Rocky Point wharf from 9.30 till 11.30 coming a distance of ten miles or more, waiting their turn to cross, to the city and it is a common occurrence to wait on either side while the boat made the round trip. Do we call that progressiveness.

I am sir, etc.

SOUTH SHORE SHIPPER

TO OPEN NEW IRISH THEATRE

LONDON, April 26—(By the Canadian Press)—J. B. Fagan, the Irish playwright and dramatic author, is engaged at present on a scheme for opening an Irish Theatre in the West End of London. "It has been my idea to open a theatre of this kind for a long time," says Mr. Fagan. "We have promises of financial support, and I know that the scheme has the very good will of the Irish Free State Government, and it is probable that it may receive the Government's assistance."

He added that the theatre would not be entirely for the Irish population of London, and besides Irish plays the best European dramas would be produced.

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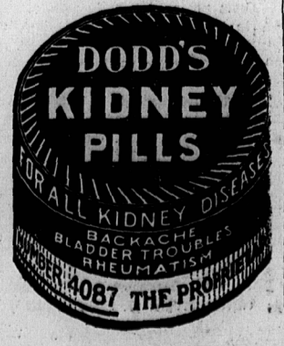

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