

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 1926

MR. MEIGHEN'S ENEMIES

Nothing that appears in the Liberal press more clearly expresses the fear with which Mr. Meighen is regarded by that party than the manner of their frequent and violent attacks upon him. Every weakness of their own defeated and discredited leader, Mr. Mackenzie King, is laid upon the devoted head of Mr. Meighen. Every expression of complaint, and they are many, from Liberal politicians and Liberal newspapers concerning the unfitness of Mr. Mackenzie King as a leader, is immediately followed by a new canard about alleged discontent and disagreement in the Conservative party about the leadership of Mr. Meighen. When Mr. Mackenzie King was down and out after the 29th of October last, Mr. Meighen's "mistakes" became a subject of general discussion in Liberal newspapers. During the early days of the present session when Mr. Meighen did not secure a "majority of the members in the House" and Mr. King did—somehow—the Liberal press teemed with Mr. Meighen's alleged "unpopularity."

Now, what are the facts? Mr. Meighen has enemies. A brief search through the pages of Liberal newspapers will give ample proof of the fact. But the pages of both the Liberal and Conservative press will demonstrate very clearly that "his foes are not those of his own household." No leader since the days of Sir John A. Macdonald was more loyally supported or more confidently trusted as a leader and as a statesman than is the Rt. Hon. Arthur Meighen, and no leader since the days of Sir John has been more persistently vilified than he.

h's dethronement; he suits them all right, so far as partisanship goes. But every Canadian, whether Liberal, Conservative or Progressive, realizes only too well that while an opportunist who yields to every pressure is at the head of one of the great parties in Canadian politics, progress and sane rule are impossible. This is why the early deposition of Mr. Mackenzie King will be regarded as anything but a calamity.

OUR NATIONAL PARKS

The Sackville Board of Trade has recently been notified that its request of a year or so ago, to have Fort Cumberland taken under the wing of the National Parks Committee, has been complied with. This historic landmark is now a National Park and will be cared for at the expense of the Dominion.

Representatives of a similar kind have from time to time been made on behalf of some of the historic sites in this province but so far, nothing has come of it. We have, just across Charlottetown Harbor the remains of one of the old French forts. In a spot which for beauty is not excelled in Canada. It is near enough to the city for a city park, is on one of the main roads between Borden and Charlottetown and, if taken over by the National Parks Committee—as there is no reason why it should not—it might easily be made one of the beauty spots of Canada. Its historic associations as a link between the original French regime and the present title to its recognition as one of the historic landmarks of the Maritimes but we evidently have "no pull" at Ottawa and so are compelled to look on passively, if enviously, while favours, no better deserved, are being poured out lavishly on other parts of the Dominion.

We have also in the heart of the city of Charlottetown an ancient cemetery in which lie the remains of men and women once enrolled among the Great in Imperial and Colonial service, civil and military officers, statesmen, soldiers. Here many of the founders of our province, some whose names will figure for all time in the history of Canada and of the Empire, lie under moss grown tablets amid the accumulations of a neglected wilderness. This, also, could be made a beauty spot and a joy to the city to be visited by thousands, for who is there that does not love to "linger among the graves" and read over again the dimly remembered names of his heroic men and women.

To this spot also the attention of the National Parks Committee has more than once been directed but "the pull" has failed to function.

EDITORIAL NOTES

To clear the railway in the province of Quebec the other day after a snowfall of several feet 38 snowplows and 1000 men were called into requisition and the track was cleared in a few hours. It takes days for us to do a thing like that.

The markets are now calling for potatoes. What shape are our potato shippers in to meet the demand? Have we the necessary cars? Can we get them and, if we can, can we get them away? Many thousands of dollars hang on the answer.

The Sackville Post says "A former P. E. Island man has won the fiddling championship out in Moosejaw. He should join the Mackenzie King government at Ottawa, then all the champion fiddlers are required to complete the structure according to specifications. So far only one has been yet found that is supposed to be suitable. It will take about two weeks to get that dressed and hauled from Regina to Ottawa. Seven more timbers will then still be wanted and only two weeks in which to find and dress them. Can it be done? If it cannot there must be a better attempt at reconstruction."

Notes by the Way

The question of abolishing the Legislative Council in Nova Scotia is interesting in the light that Premier Rhodes has thrown upon it. Although all but one or two of its present members are of Liberal appointment, that is the result of the Liberal party having had control of the Provincial Government for 43 years from 1832 to 1925. But Premier Rhodes was able to show that the question of abolishing the Council had been brought before the Legislative Assembly at various times under successive Conservative and Liberal Governments, in 1871, 1874, 1876, 1879 and upon other occasions and in every case the Assembly had voted for abolition, but the Council had rejected the bill.

In 1887 Premier Fielding moved for a conference between the two Houses on the subject and the following year a bill to abolish the Council was passed, both of which were rejected by the latter body. In 1897 Premier Murray had brought down a bill to abolish the Council which was thrown out by that House, notwithstanding that that every Legislative Councilor at that time was pledged to vote for abolition when called upon to do so. It appears that these honorable gentlemen had set up a claim that they had been advised by eminent legal counsel that the pledge they had given was not legally binding upon them and could not be enforced!

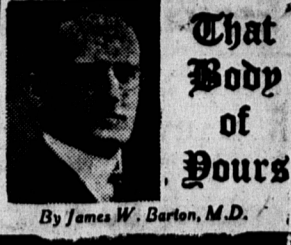
There appears no doubt that both the elected Assembly and the great majority of the people of Nova Scotia have for more than half a century been trying to abolish their Upper House and have failed. It is a strange thing that this should be true. Mr. Rhodes announces confidently that his Government will effect the seemingly impossible task even if they have to "appeal to Westminster" for imperial legislation to enforce the will of the people of his province.

In the course of his speech above referred to Premier Rhodes intimated his opinion that only one Chamber and that reduced to 30 members is needed in Nova Scotia. At present the Legislative Assembly consists of 43 members. As the population of Nova Scotia is six times as great as that of Prince Edward Island we are left to infer that in our Province possibly a modest reduction in the number of our provincial legislators might safely be made.

The King Government has accomplished something. It has in a session of eight weeks been able to defeat several proposed amendments to the Address in reply to the Speech from the Throne, introduce closure and secure an adjournment of Parliament until the 15th of March! Isn't that a great achievement? The adjournment is to enable Mr. King to reconstruct his Cabinet, the Cabinet which he had reconstructed before the October election. It needs to be reconstructed all over again now. Why is this? some one may ask.

Well, the reconstructed Cabinet in October had Mr. W. L. Mackenzie King as Premier, and the electors of North York on the 29th of October said they did not want him any longer as Premier, or as their representative in Parliament, in fact they did not want him at all. And other constituencies that had been asked to elect Mr. Graham as Minister of Railways, Mr. Murdoch as Minister of Labor, Mr. Low as Minister of Trade, Mr. Norris in Manitoba, Mr. Foster as Secretary of State in St. John, Mr. Vincent Massey in Ontario, Mr. Sinclair in Prince Edward Island and other Ministers elsewhere, all said, "We do not want these men to be Ministers, or members of Parliament, or for anything else. We do not want them at all."

It seems strange that Mr. King should want nine men in his Cabinet that the people did not want but so it is. And that is the way it has been for four months past. And that is why the Cabinet that was reconstructed four months ago has to be all reconstructed over again now. It took Mr. King four months to get himself reconstructed sufficiently to be able to present himself in the House of Commons. It seems to be so much harder to reconstruct in the winter than in the summer months of the year.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

TRYING TO MEASURE FOOD VALUES

We have travelled far on the matter of proper foods in the past few years. It was not long ago since it was just a matter of taking "enough" food to satisfy the appetite, irrespective of what those foods were. A little later foods were classified into five simple headings, meats and eggs, vegetables and starches, fats and oils, salts, and water, and it was suggested that some of all five should be eaten every day. A little later still this was qualified in that it was only a man working outdoors was entitled to eat heartily of meat. Thus tables of food values were arranged in heat units, so that it was possible for you to eat so many heat units of the different kinds of foods according to your age, height, weight and the amount of physical work during the day. Now this was very sensible, but it did not explain why two individuals of the same age, weight, height and doing the same amount of work daily, responded differently after eating the same amount and kinds of foods. One put on weight, the other lost weight. One felt well, the other miserable.

Why? Because it could not take into account the amount of chewing of the food, whether or not they both liked the food to the same extent, whether one had a better digestive apparatus than the other, or that his food travelled through the small intestine at the one rate of speed all the time, whereas in the other the food moved slowly in one portion and very quickly in another. In other words one intestine, by evenness of work, extracted more real food value from the food into the blood than did the other. Perhaps the various organizations functioned differently, that is the liver the blood making apparatus did much better work in one than in the other.

So you see that while eating food is the most important thing you do, never the less if after you have regulated your diet scientifically, you still do not get the nourishment and increase in weight, and feel tired and miserable, then something in that body of yours must be interfering with the ability of your tissues to derive the proper amount of benefit from your food.

Your doctor will likely locate the cause if you'll give him reasonable time to do so.

Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers

March 5, 1926 BOUNTIFUL PROVISION — "Go, and gather the elders of Israel together and say unto them, * * * I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt * * * unto a land flowing with milk and honey." Ex. 3:16-17. PRAYER — We believe, O Lord, that Thou wilt supply our every need, out of Thy riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

"THIS EMPIRE"

(A song of the Dominions written by Kipling in 1898)

"Twix my house and thy house the pathway is broad, In thy house, or my house is half the world's hoard; By my house and thy house hangs all the world's fate, On thy house and my house lies half the world's hate. For my house and thy house no help shall we find, Save thy house and my house kin cleaving to kind; If my house be taken, thine tumbleth anon. If thy house be forfeit, mine followeth soon. Twix my house and thy house what talk there can be Of headship, or lordship, or service or fee? Since my house to thy house no greater can send Than thy house to my house— friend, comforting friend; And thy house to my house no weaker can bring Than my house to thy house— King, counselling King."

timber are required to complete the structure according to specifications. So far only one has been yet found that is supposed to be suitable. It will take about two weeks to get that dressed and hauled from Regina to Ottawa. Seven more timbers will then still be wanted and only two weeks in which to find and dress them. Can it be done? If it cannot there must be a better attempt at reconstruction."

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.

MR. MEIGHEN AND "THE PARTY"

Sir.—The continuous attacks of The Patriot and its contemporaries upon the Leader of the Opposition are amusing an appreciative public. If Mr. Meighen is such an incompetent as they say he is, they should be glad (from the party point of view) to let him alone. He is the very man, from their point of view, to be kept in his position. Reading between the lines of the Patriot's editorials, the public can however see that Mr. Meighen is regarded by the Liberals as a first class leader and that he is likely in the near future, to take power out of their hands. That is really why the Patriot and all those Liberals who support the government against Liberal principles are so mad about him. Mr. Meighen is evidently all right, from the point of view of the interests of Canada and its people. So the people will vote for Mr. Meighen and the Great Party he leads whenever they may have an opportunity to do so.

I am, Sir, etc., A CONSERVATIVE

SOMETHING DOING!

Sir,—Now that the expected has happened, now that Mr. Mackenzie King has succeeded in buying over the Progressives, and so securing a majority of 13—unlucky number—in the House of Commons, together with a seat therein for himself we may look to see "something doing" at Ottawa. There can be no good excuse for longer delay in filling the vacant seats on The Bench and in the Senate. It will be interesting to note what will be done for the editor of The Patriot whose steadfast loyalty to his party and ingenious efforts through out the recent crisis to make the worse appear to be the better cause has amused public opinion and kept some of the more thoughtful Liberals in line. Certainly the editor of The Patriot ought to be rewarded by the best position now available or that can be made for him: From the Party's point of view he has earned a reward, though with the Party he has gone back on the essential principles of Liberalism. One of those principles is that the government of the country shall have the confidence and support of a majority of the electors. The Liberal (?) Prime Minister and eight of his colleagues were defeated in the general election; yet they held on to office, made a corrupt bargain with the members of a Party elected in Opposition to them, and so obtained a majority of 13 in the House of Commons—and now they proceed to all offices, make estimates and prepare to make good their promises to the Progressives! Another Liberal principle is that there shall be free speech in a Free Parliament. The Liberal Party denounced the Conservative Party for applying the closure in order that the business of Parliament might be carried on; and the other day they applied closure in order that their members might have a holiday and a good time while the selected members and appointments were prepared measures to enable them to hold the support of the Progressives. Well, the electors will have another opportunity ere long. I am, Sir, etc., AN INDEPENDENT OBSERVER

FAULTY TEACHING METHODS

Sir,—Apropos of the little discussion now going on—"City Schools versus Country Schools"—will you allow me space for a few remarks on that great army of children who never pass, nor even attempt the Entrance Exams. I refer to the great majority of the pupils of our rural schools, who leave school anytime between the ages of twelve and fifteen, the extent of whose knowledge is the ability to read and write after a fashion, but who cannot be said to be educated in any sense of the word. Our Island teachers are as fine a body of industrious and conscientious young people as any in the Dominion. They have the energy and enthusiasm of youth. Why, then, are the methods in vogue in our rural schools so hopelessly neglected as to be a perennial joke to the educationalists of other provinces? Why does the teacher spend months in the stupefying process of teaching the little alphabet, letter by letter, to the little beginner? Why are our little children kept years, in school without learning to write legibly or read with intelligence? It is no uncommon thing at School Fairs in other provinces, to see samples of good plain writing signed, "Mary so-and-so, eight weeks in school," or "Johnny so-and-so three months in school."

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Persons Prominent in Our Island Story

(W. L. COTTON.)

ROBERT HARRIS R.C.A., C.M.G.

Concerning the poet Pope it was written: "He lapsed in numbers and the numbers came"; and it may be as truly remarked that Robert Harris practised the fine arts from his infancy. In the intervals of his studies at school and college, when for any reason he was compelled to stay indoors, or when in the fields during summer, or at his home in the evenings his pencil and note book always at hand, were employed in jotting down his impressions and making likenesses of persons and things which seemed to him peculiar, beautiful, humorous, or otherwise worthy of remark. In this way he gained a habit of quick insight and rapidity of execution by which he profited when his reputation became widespread throughout Canada and the United States, and orders for portraits increased in number. His first portraits were painted in Charlottetown. There he lived with his parents after their arrival in the autumn of 1856, when he was but seven years of age. He was born in the Vale of Conway, North Wales—fit birthplace for a poetic soul—in the year 1849. In Charlottetown conditions were not during his youth, favorable to artistic development; but, urged by his native genius, and encouraged by the praise bestowed upon his pictures by companions and friends, he persevered in the study and practice of art. While yet in his teens and before passages by steamships were common he crossed the Atlantic in a sailing vessel and took lessons in drawing and portraiture at the Slade School of Art in connection with the University of London. One of his fellow passengers in the ship and fellow students in the University was Jacob Gould Schurman.

Returning to Charlottetown, he continued his art studies and practice; and at the same time he was engaged in land surveys and accounting in the offices of the late Mr. H. J. Cundall and the late Hon. E. J. Hodgson. In the meantime he proceeded to Boston where he made copies of a number of the best portraits on exhibition in the Boston Academy, and illustrated Hawthorne's Twice Told Tales. Subsequently he painted portraits of the Speakers of the Legislative Assembly of Prince Edward Island as well as of the Hon. George Coles, the Hon. Edward Whelan, the Hon. William Garvie, the Hon. Joseph Howe, Sir William Young and other prominent politicians and citizens of the Maritimes. Then he went to Paris where for some time he studied under the direction of the famous French artist, Bonnat, and had the satisfaction of seeing his pictures hung in The Salon of Paris and in the Royal Academy of London.

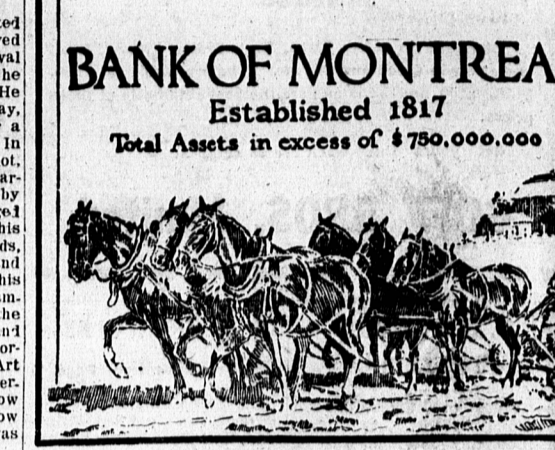
Upon his return to Canada he proceeded to Montreal, where he opened a studio. There his ability as a portrait painter was soon recognized; and there he painted in succeeding years the portraits of many of the citizens most prominent in the educational, commercial and political circles of our metropolitan city. In the year 1880, the Marquis of Lorne, then Governor General of Canada, with his wife the Princess Louise, founded the Royal Canadian Academy of Art. Harris was, from the first a leading spirit in its Discretion; and, not long afterwards, he was elected its President. In that high office he remained for thirteen years. Recognition and appreciation of his services were shown when in 1902, he was created (C. M. G.) Commander of the Noble Order of St. Michael and St. George.

In the meantime, his reputation as an artist increased and extended weeks in school," or "Johnny so-and-so three months in school." Why are our children kept at purely mechanical work up to the fourth or fifth grade, without any attempt to train their reasoning powers? Why is history introduced to young pupils in the Third book, by getting them to memorize "History Notes"? Why do our Inspectors pass such methods? The net results of this "teaching" is that many children receive no education in our expensive schools and become disgusted and leave at a very early age. The younger children spend, at a most conservative estimate, 50 per cent of their time in idleness, because the teacher does not know how to keep them employed, while she attends to the more advanced classes. Anybody who has had charge of children knows that this is most detrimental to school manners and morals. Why do our country teachers not follow the really excellent "Course of Studies" planned for them by the Department? I will answer in the words of a candid young teacher whom I questioned on the subject. "We do not know how. We get such a slight smattering of instruction in Methods of Teaching in the Prince of Wales College, that it practically amounts to none at all."

"We do not know how to apply modern methods to our work, and are obliged to fall back on the old ways that we learned from the teacher in our home school." Sir, this is the state of affairs in our country schools today. If the Professors in the Prince of Wales College are supposed, or vice in their native province they are "falling down on the job!"

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ed. He painted portraits of sitters in Toronto, Ottawa, New York and, indeed, in all the principal cities of Canada and the United States. One of his chief works was a large picture of the Fathers of Confederation, engaged in their deliberations at the Convention in Quebec. It was painted by request of the Government of Canada and hung in the Railway Committee Room of the House of Commons. Its size was about 10x15 feet, and it were portrayed the faces and figures of all the most distinguished statesmen and politicians of the Confederation period. Unfortunately this great historic picture was burned in the fire by which the Parliament Building was destroyed; and unfortunately the smaller lithographed copies of it now extant are very imperfect representations of it. Several portraits painted by him hang in the art galleries at Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto. Of these a picture of the Countess of Minto, hung in the gallery at Montreal, attracts the attention of every visitor. The portraits of the Marquis of Lorne, of the Hon. Edward Whelan, of the City, hung on the walls of the City Council Chamber, are examples of his earlier work. His frequent visits to the best art galleries of Great Britain, France, Spain, Germany and Italy inspired his later efforts and accelerated his continuous artistic improvement of his landscape and architectural designs. His pictures, particularly those of his later years, were highly appreciated by his contemporaries. Not the least admired were those which he painted for the mural and altar decoration of the Hodgson Memorial Chapel, in connection with St. Peter's Cathedral, Charlottetown. He was awarded a medal at the World's Fair in Chicago, a gold medal at the Pan American Exhibition, held in Buffalo, gold and silver medals at the Louisiana Purchase Exhibition held in St. Louis, and Honorable mention at the Paris Exhibition of 1900. That his pictures, portraits and landscapes alike, will survive the lapse of ages, there can be no doubt; and it will be the verdict of the connoisseurs of a later day that will establish his position in the realm of art. When at leisure he frequently amused himself by writing poetry. His poems were for the most part, the pictorial order. As he was apt to draw pictures of things which struck his fancy, so he was apt to set forth in verse, the features and conditions in which he happened to

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