

The Charlottetown Guardian

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The Relief Problem

There is a considerable discrepancy between the unemployment report of the Canadian Welfare Council and the facts as revealed in yesterday's Guardian. The Welfare Council, in its annual survey of relief trends in the Dominion, purporting to be based on information gained by members of its staff in actual visits to every Province since Oct. 1 of last year, described Prince Edward Island's relief problem as having "shrunk almost to the vanishing point."

Farm Exports Still Down

Analysis of the figures of Canada's foreign trade during the past year reveals that notwithstanding heavily increased exports in minerals, the volume of agricultural exports was at a relatively low level. The Royal Bank of Canada monthly letter sums up the situation when it says: "The story of the recovery of Canadian foreign trade is that of the expansion in the production of gold, copper, nickel, lead, aluminum and zinc."

The Bank letter cites the past twelve months as equaling in volume, but not in value, the exports of 1929, the highest of the pre-depression years. Between 1929 and 1936, however, agricultural and vegetable products fell from 46 per cent. of our total exports to 32 per cent., and non-ferrous metals increased from 8 to 22 per cent. "If this represents a temporary falling off in agricultural sales because of reduced world buying power," says the letter, "then Canada's total exports will increase very rapidly to new high levels when demand for agricultural products is again established."

On the other hand, while our proportion of agricultural exports decreased, our imports of agricultural products showed an opposite tendency, increasing from 18.4 per cent in 1929 to 19.6 per cent. in 1936. If the index number of the prices of Canadian exports for the fiscal year 1929 is taken as 100, the index number of export prices for the past twelve months would be 70.8. In terms of gold, present prices for exports amount to only about 42 per cent. of the returns received in 1929.

Why The Inconsistency?

The public is informed that Dr. J. CLARENCE WEBSTER of Shediac, N. B., distinguished in medicine, history and public service, has received the King of Italy the honor of Commandership in the distinguished Order of St. Maurice and St. Lazarus. No one, comments the Fredericton Gleaner, can quarrel with the honor conferred upon a son of New Brunswick eminently deserving of such honor, although there may be surprise that a nation classed as hostile to the British Commonwealth but a few months ago, has improved relations to the extent of conferring such distinction. There should be wonder, however, on the part of citizens of this Dominion, that a foreign power has the permission to bestow such honor on a citizen of this country when the attitude of the Federal Government makes it impossible that a like British honor be bestowed.

Italy is but one of several countries which have conferred honors upon citizens of Canada without let or hindrance during periods when similar British honors have been banned. The Kingdom of Belgium has given them. The Republic of France has given various distinctions under the Legion of Honor. The same has been true of the Republic of Poland. Papal honors have been bestowed in numbers upon those held worthy of them.

The inconsistency of the attitude which has produced this situation is apparent. If a ban upon honors,—including titles,—within the gift of the British Crown, is imposed within this Dominion, a similar ban should be imposed upon the receiving of like honors from other sources. This of course, is the bestowal of such honors

is considered wounding to the true democrats. If foreign countries bestow them upon Canadians, there should be no objection to time-honored British bestowal of the like.

To the foregoing comment might be added the fact that foreign honors can only be bestowed on British citizens with the consent and approval of the government in power. The MACKENZIE KING GOVERNMENT not only permits but approves the recognition of distinguished service by foreign powers, yet refuses to sanction British honors to Canadians. This is an example of the strange shifts that politicians resort to after currying electoral support as demagogues.

Editorial Notes

Twelfth Day, St. Joan of Arc was born this date 1412.

The Duke of Windsor seems as unfortunate as an autoist as he was as a rider.

Is there any one of the 30 members of the Legislature who has not yet had a "picnic"? If so, let him now speak, or forever hold his silence.

Angus MacDonald, of Edmonton, and George Watt, Calgary, Scots, have been exchanging the same Christmas card for eleven years.

Snow is wanted for hauling lumber here and elsewhere. In New Brunswick lumbermen are complaining bitterly of losing contracts because of being unable to load steamers chartered for the purpose.

"An undeclared war" was what the Japs once imposed upon Russia, and Germany is evidently trying to follow her example regarding Spain, the Loyalist Government's emergency evidently providing the Nazi's opportunity.

Is it the case that the government is charging material against unemployment relief? It has been reported to us that relief employment in one case has been stopped because a bill for gravel has absorbed the appropriation.

Would it appear to any ordinary man that 2,500 unemployed out of a population of 12,000 or 14,000 was insignificant? Yet that is what our Provincial Government has assured the Federal Government is the fact. The "diminishing point" of our unemployment situation is a severe one indeed to those who have to provide for their necessities.

We do not have a look-in at Ottawa so far as plums are concerned. Here the Lobster Commissioner, the Lobster Counsel, and the Lobster Stenographer are all from New Brunswick, though it presumes to be a joint commission for Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick. Now if Mr. A. E. McLean had been on the job, well—!

According to Colonel G. Cousens, manager of the Ontario Fur Farmers Pelt Show, both mink and fox skin prices already have reflected the coming coronation, while demand for pelts has also increased. "Of hand I would say that the silver fox cape, now being favored for the coronation, is doing most to bring prosperity back to our fur farmers," Colonel Cousens said.

Now that both the Washington and London naval treaties have expired, leaving a free field for unrestricted building, it finds the British Navy the world's leader in total tonnage with approximately 1,200,000 tons of fighting ships. The United States follows close behind with 1,070,000 tons, and Japan, by a wider margin, is third in naval power with 750,000 tons.

The United States Department of Agriculture report prices of farm produce have retained a strong position and have not been weakened by Canadian imports. That is particularly true of cheese. Cream imports were very small and could not possibly have any effect on prices, while such declines as have occurred for cattle have affected chiefly a class of which relatively few come from Canada. Canadian butter imports were seen by the Department as "almost negligible insofar as prices were concerned."

Canadian distillers profited greatly from the first year's operation of the trade pact with the United States, their shipments to that country having more than doubled. With the December figures yet incomplete it is estimated that for the full calendar year exports of whiskey from the Dominion across the border will total at least 4,500,000 proof gallons, valued approximately at \$20,500,000, as compared with shipments in the full calendar year 1935 of 1,938,827 proof gallons valued at \$10,854,458.

Six-foot Myrtle Doig gave the Ontario Plowman's Association international match a feminine touch as she trudged behind her father's two-furrow machine, coaching him and moving soil by hand when the furrow displeased her. Myrtle sturdy daughter of Alex Doig, of Lachute, Que., followed her father's riding plow, only implement of its type in the contest, making sure the three-horse team worked in unison and adjusting the machine at times. She was asked if she liked the plow and answered, regarding it with the eye of a connoisseur: "I would not sell it for \$1,000." Myrtle has lived all her life on the farm and she said she has no desire to move to a city.

An automobile sanding device intended to prevent autos from skidding on wet, snow-covered or icy streets, in much the same manner as sand is used by street cars, is described in a patent granted at Washington to J. S. Feins, a New York inventor. Every time the driver pulls up his emergency brake, or steps on the foot brake the patented automobile sander would immediately sprinkle a copious supply of sand on the highway beneath the rear wheels of the auto to provide a good, non-slipping surface. Swung like a battery from the floor of the car, the sander is a box-like container with a grate-like bottom and a hinged top for refilling purposes. A nozzle extends from the bottom and sprinkles sand below the rear wheels, each of which has its own individual nozzle.

Notes By The Way

We speak of the invasion of industry by women, but the percentage of self-supporting women in the country in 1930 was only a trifle higher than in 1910. To-day it is probably down to the 1910 level. A sample group of 1,000 self-supporting Americans outside the home would have contained 212 women in the year 1910 and 220 women 20 years later. To-day, under the influence of economic depression, it might not be much more than 200 women. The New Deal is mistaken when it speaks of the wicked old competitive system herding the women of America into the factories. The women under the old system were drifting away from the factories. Whether? To some extent the women drifted to the department stores and the telephone switchboards. But the biggest rush by far was into the clerical occupations. In this field they have attained absolute parity with the men. Twenty-five years ago the office workers were two men to one woman. In 1930, a body of 1,000 white-collar workers would comprise 506 men and 494 women.—New York Times.

If the world cannot do better than alternate between boom and depression, then indeed, is our economic system a failure. There must be something better than to live in depression times in hope of a boom, and in boom times in fear of a depression. We know there is; we know it by proper and expert management. It does swing one way or the other can be averted. It has taken the worst depression of which we have knowledge to develop the technique of internal management of the price level, now a well tried and proven practice. Sweden and Great Britain have been able to maintain this control, largely, perhaps, because there has been no general tendency to increased prices elsewhere.—Regina Star.

Level crossings in rural districts are said to be responsible for more fatalities than the level crossings in the cities. It is not the level crossings, but the unlevel heads of drivers that are responsible for the fatalities.—Rk.

It is reported from Rome that a process has been patented by the Italian authorities for making wool from wheals, or at least for making a material that is "said to have all the characteristics of wool." This is one more sign of the times though the wheal is not wool, or for the world at large, which has already as much wool as it can wear. It is a sign that another player at the game of economic self-sufficiency is paying a forfeit, or in the idiom of the players, finding a substitute. Here the substitute may be initially more expensive, but it is less serviceable than the genuine article. The value of research is unquestioned, but this is to stimulate it at the expense of the community.—Christian Science Monitor.

The news of an aerial battle over Madrid in which 100 planes took part does not prompt the suggestion that Spain's civil war is nearing its end. But it does raise a strong presumption that such a supply of the machines of war came from somewhere else than from Spain's aircraft factories.—Sydney Post Record.

The emphasis upon youth poses a question to the democracies. We will never permit youth to be regimented as long as democracy survives. But, at the same time, it is up to us to provide youths with opportunities for employing their enthusiasm in the service of the State. We do singularly little to encourage their participation in public life. We do not give them the feeling of having an active part in democracy. Is it any wonder, then, if they turn after strange idols?—Montreal Star.

Humanity will never cease to honor and bless the name of Thomas Edison, whose genius brought such useful gifts to the world. Just that one gift of a new light that now floods the earth, in factories, offices, homes, highways, and laboratories, alone would have endeared him and placed him among the immortals.—Ex.

Income tax collections in the United States for the first half of December amounted to \$254,421,651, a gain of 15 per cent. over the like period a year ago. The fact may be taken as signal proof of the rapid progress of industrial recovery in the country. President Roosevelt will start his second term under vastly better national conditions than his first.—Montreal Gazette.

A blind man in Denver has reached the front pages of the newspapers of North America in a simple way. He was pursuing his course, using a stick, when he came to a crossing and felt a motor car square across his path. He walked to the front of the machine, by feel took the number, and reported it to the police. The offender was fined.—Toronto Star.

"Diplomacy has reached a deplorable condition where each nation tells the other nation how well it is equipped for war. As the Milwaukee Sentinel observes, it is like a small boy asking other small boys to feel his muscles." states The Midland Free Press.—Windsor Star.

Military conscription in England is bound to come, according to a dispatch from London. The young men of that country are not responding to the call to join the army. Such a thing would never have happened prior to 1914—which shows that one of the lessons of the war has been learned. People of England are not anxious to fight, and even refuse to offer their services until their country is in actual danger. In fact, that it may actually injure the defence plans of the British war ministry.—Chatham News.

Society is getting weak in the enforcement of its laws. We are looking for excuses for letting criminals go. There will be a swing back to severity some day, and then we shall err on the side of severity as we are now erring on the side of leniency. Human nature, overpraised as it is, is prone to extremes. When the happy medium is found, it is not long kept to. That shows the theory of continuous human progress may be wrong.—Antigonish Courier.

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.

SPEEDING

Sir,—I would like to ask through the columns of your paper, why is it that the powers that be are not enforcing the traffic rules and speed limits on our permanent highways? The law states that the maximum speed at any time must not exceed 45 miles per hour, and on meeting a vehicle between sunset and sunrise 30 miles per hour. Any one who drives on this highway knows that sixty and seventy miles per hour is nothing uncommon, even for trucks. There are some who respect this law but the majority do not. They will not dim their lights when meeting other cars, will not give their share of the road and the writer has had cars and trucks to pass his car while running the speed limits and in some cases near the top of a hill. Let any car owner drive on this highway at the maximum speed, 45 miles per hour, and see how many cars will pass him. Dozens of them will do it.

We have a staff of R. C. M. Police in this Province and where are they? Why is it that they are not patrolling this highway? Not one day in a week but every day. It is an easy matter for these men to drive their car at the maximum speed at all times and each and every car that passes them take their numbers down and see to it that they are promptly dealt with, without respect to persons and without fear or favour. Any car passing another car that is running 45 miles per hour is surely breaking the speed limits and should be taken to task.

Also we have a number of Justices of the Peace in this Province why do we have them drive in the above manner, when they are out in their cars, and check up on these speeders? Why pass a law and let the Government appoint speeder service men to catch the speeder and reckless driver. We have a law, let every one respect that law and let those who think they can get by or that their time is too valuable to comply with it be taught a lesson and contribute in the way of a stiff fine to the treasury of the Province.

If something is not done along these lines more fatal accidents will surely happen and our permanent highways, instead of being an attraction for tourists, will have just the opposite effect.

I Am Sir, etc. MOTORIST

BRIDGE PROJECTS

Sir,—Your correspondent who signs with the magic and awe-inspiring M. now enters the ring; but I am not Mussolini. I notice a letter of 25th signed by J. W. Mitchell, in which, after scoring the government for falling down on their promises, he gives the cost of building a bridge over the San Francisco, eight miles in length as \$77,500,000. At this rate a modern bridge across the North River would cost one-eight of this amount or nearly \$10,000,000. This sum would make a gift of \$1,000 to all the farmers in P. E. Island and would it not be better to give them this amount directly than give it away to a bridge company? It would solve the problem of taxes and arrears, now pressing. Mr. Mitchell was in favour last year of a number of bridges, but it is not strange for a man to change his mind.

In a letter some days later he seems to set his heart on making this place into a grand place for tourists." He wants to bring Palm beach or Miami to us in a moment.

shall err on the side of severity as we are now erring on the side of leniency. Human nature, overpraised as it is, is prone to extremes. When the happy medium is found, it is not long kept to. That shows the theory of continuous human progress may be wrong.—Antigonish Courier.

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MEN'S WEAR

practical way Those tourists must have something to drink and of course he condemns the Prohibition Act—an Act which has safeguarded our people—especially the young from degradation and despair. I think if we had no Prohibition this would be reversed. We have now nine-tenths of the people abstaining and one-tenth drinking. The reverse would be 1-10 abstaining and 9-10th drinking.

He does not think of what might be done to make this place better for the farmer and the fisherman, whose pursuits lie at the very foundation of our existence and who so patiently toil under hard circumstances and through long hours for a bare living. How much of the tourists dollar would go to the farmer? how much to the fisherman? how much to the tailor or to the dressmaker, when most of them go almost naked. How many apple-pies could the farmers sell before our apples would be ripe? How many chickens could we get clear of at handsome prices before those chickens would be done growing?

I hope my friend, as he seems to be done with bridges will join us in this new project of hard-surfacing the Borden road from Bridge, part of which is already completed. Such a project would be a decided advantage to people from distant points north, south and west as well as to those nearby as, by many converging roads they take this highway to Charlottetown. Such a project would absorb much of the traffic as far as Borden which goes by the Summerside—Charlottetown road. The condition of this road late in fall and in early spring, when most of our shipping is done, leads us to think that such a project is urgent. We want fair play in the distribution of public funds. The plums have been going north. It is time now to consider the needs of the south. We are more deserving of consideration in this respect as the transportation service by steamer between Charlottetown and Victoria and also between Charlottetown and West River Bridge was taken from us.

It is hoped that the Government will rivet their attention on this important project and also, if they see their way clear, carry out the building of an up-to-date bridge across the North River, some miles nearer the city than the present bridge, which is not wide enough for traffic both ways. Until the first named project is completed I think that a passenger and freight boat between West River Bridge and Charlottetown ought to be restored to us and it could be subsidized. This boat could call at McEwens and at North River and give a much needed service fall and spring, and even in the summer months.

We hope that our Premier, coming home from Ottawa, did not come home empty or bare-headed. Their chances to get something worth while, to meet our ever increasing fiscal needs were greater than that of ex Premier Macdonald, who with bankruptcy and when there was no eye to pity or hand to save, untied the knot by an immense increase to our subsidy. In our time we have the advantage of a double Premiership of stalwart men and we have a representative in the cabinet who holds the key to the cellar.

I am Sir, etc. M.M.V.

FUR PROSPECTS GOOD

CHURCHILL, Man—Fur prospects in the country adjacent to Hudson Bay this season are bright, trappers arriving here report. Whet foxes are numerous in the Chesterfield Inlet district, 300 miles north of here. Mink, weasel and other fur-bearing animals are said to be plentiful.

FIRST PEANUT OIL

VANCOUVER—First shipment of peanut oil to enter Vancouver since the harbor board constructed special tanks has arrived here. The cargo was carried by the City of Vancouver, a vessel built, owned and operated by Vancouver



By James W. Dobson, M.D.

FIBROSITIS—A VERY COMMON AILMENT

"There will be pain and stiffness in those parts of the body when a combination of strain and chill occur most usually. This will likely be in places where the muscles join the tendons, because tendons have a poorer blood supply than the fleshy muscle. Common situations therefore for this pain and stiffness to occur are in the lumbar (small of back) region, the lumbago, the back of the neck, the shoulder, the scalp (rheumatic headaches) and the elbow."

I am quoting from a paper read before the Mayo Clinic by Dr. W. S. Copeman, London, Honorary Secretary, Committee on Rheumatic Diseases of Royal College of Physicians.

These pains in the back, shoulder, scalp, and lower back appear to be more common than ever before. The condition is called fibrositis because it is an inflammation of the fibrous tissue in the body more particularly where this fibrous tissue joins the muscle to bones.

It is often called "muscular rheumatism."

It is not clear whether fibrositis is caused by organisms (infection from teeth, tonsils, intestine, sinuses), or because fibrous tissue is sensitive to wastes from certain foods to which the individual is sensitive or "allergic" as it is now known,—particularly protein foods meat, eggs, fish, cereals.

The treatment of this pain and stiffness, often apparently made acute by drafts in homes, offices, and automobiles, is to cut down on protein foods; cut down on salt intake; use the drugs which relax muscles, relieve pain and induce sweating such as the salicylates; the injection of a local anaesthetic into the painful part; the use of calomel and salts, or colonic irrigations; the use of heat in some form even to the use of mustard plasters. Massage is used when acute pain has passed.

"Massage when used in the treatment of fibrositis must be deep and will therefore be painful. It is necessary however that the fibrous nodules (little lumps) should be thoroughly broken up, and a trained masseur can do this."

Even after the pain is gone as fibrositis "takes it out of a patient quite unthinkingly" heat and massage should be continued for some time as the little nodules may return. The patient should then take up gymnasium exercise or active



The Poet's Corner

FROM "WIND AND HILL"

He meets me on the mountain Where the white van of snow Bursts through the sentinel pines To shatter on the serried lines Of fir-wood far below; Or where the bastions of the feld Surge from the clinging heath bells That cloak their craggy pride. I never see him, but his tread Sounds just before my own; One thought designs the task of One effort wins the onward way. Dividing yet alone, One hope, one vigor of intent, Swayed by one resolute consent Of sympathy unaid.

The seaman loves too late a tide And greets me but from far; The sylvan god of moor and dale Laughs in upon my dawn of day. Gone with the morning star; On wild range and rocky shore One of all that's in me lies Mounts ever at my side. —Geoffrey Winthrop Young

sports; if too old for this the faradic electricity will stimulate action in the muscles. This information and suggestions from such a source should prove of value to those who suffer with this common ailment.

DR. L. B. EVANS
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