

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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Revitalizing Farm Life

One of the disadvantages of being opposed politically to Premier Bennett is the difficulty of concocting criticism that will not have an embarrassing reaction. Only a few weeks ago, Liberal wisecracks at Ottawa were predicting that Mr. Bennett "dare not go West." Nevertheless, on December 20th last, he went West, and speaking at Regina gave chapter and verse for what he has done, for what he is doing and for what he proposes to do. Seven thousand people cheered themselves hoarse over his record of accomplishment and hundreds of thousands more heard with satisfaction his address as broadcast.

There was reason for this enthusiasm. Up to the end of the first week in December and exclusive of Quebec, for which figures were not available, 24,712 people had been given relief employment under the Government's policy as passed during the last session of Parliament. This did not include actual increased employment in industries, nor in construction work on new industries, following tariff changes affected last September.

Of chief interest, however, was the Premier's enunciation of the principles which will guide him in meeting the problems of farm life in the Dominion. Both in general and specific terms he pledged himself to the extension of the same progressive measures on behalf of the farmer as have been planned for industry. He disappointed some, of course, in his refusal to establish a minimum price for wheat, but his explanation of the impossibility of doing so will be readily accepted and his courage—in the public interest—in saying "no" to a dangerous but popular demand should be acclaimed.

Wheat growing is our major industry, but it is not our only one. This year it will not total ten per cent. of the value of our mineral, timber, fishing, livestock, dairy and collective manufacturing industries. Every one of these is feeling the pinch of depression though perhaps not as severely as in other countries in all cases. These industries have the same right to fixed prices for their products as have wheat farmers. On wheat alone a fixed minimum which would be acceptable might easily run the country into an annual loss of \$100,000,000. And if the other industries received the same treatment an annual deficit of \$500,000,000 per year is easily possible. The end—which would come very close to the beginning—would be national bankruptcy and distress compared to which existing depression would be unexampled prosperity.

The Government has, however, taken every step consonant with humaneness and common sense. There is to be relief for distressed farmers. There is to be seed grain provided for them. At the instigation of the Government an organization is formed to finance at minimum cost farmers desiring to extend operations in mixed production. Provision has been made to escape forced marketing of wheat. New markets for that cereal have been opened in France and in China and others are being developed. Minimum grain rates are to apply on exports via the Hudson Bay Railway. Mr. Bennett submits that program of accomplishment and effort as evidence of a sincere determination to revitalize farm life in Canada.

Home Rule for India

The Round Table Conference upon India has already lasted two months. All onlookers of this historic event naturally ask themselves what has actually been done during this time by way of implementing the specific purpose for which this conference was called. Report has it that satisfactory progress has been made upon some secondary matters with which the various sub-committees were invited to deal. But whilst sundry tan-

tative proposals have been put forward with regard to the future status of provincial legislatures, the administration of the northwest frontier, and the extension of the Hindu suffrage so as to include twenty per cent. more of the adult population, these are segmentary and internal coefficients of the problem which still leave in issue the main question before the conference. This question may be inferred from the pronouncement made in 1917 when it was stated that the policy of His Majesty's Government was that "of the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realization of responsible government in India as an integral part of the British Empire." This is the goal of the British policy. It accords with the findings of the Simon Commission which contained the definite recommendation that in the provinces of India, with their varied and vast populations, the whole range of administration should be entrusted to national governments responsible to elected chambers. The report, however, contained the stipulation that the "time is not yet ripe for rendering the Central Executive responsible to the federal Assembly." In other words, the Viceroy and his colleagues, according to this plan, cannot be dismissed by vote of the Indian Legislative Assembly and are responsible to the British Government. It is still to be seen how far the Hindu representatives are ready to conform to the terms of such programme as proffers a larger measure of self-government than has ever been before known in the history of the Indian Empire.

Back to the Waltz

A Vancouver exchange notes with approval that the waltz is regaining popularity in the ball-room. While it cannot be said that the jazz orchestra has gone into the discard there can be no doubt, it says, that jazz is very much on the wane. With the return of the waltz has come the return of the long evening skirt. Perhaps the revival of the one has brought about the revival of the other. And possibly the double event means a change in the psychology not only of the dancers but of a generation. Jazz was a natural aftermath of the war and, at its fastest, and noisier, crystallized the effervescent, hectic atmosphere of the period. That period has passed, and now, despite abortive efforts here and there to revive it, life is returning to a saner and more responsible attitude. Probably jazz will survive longest in the country which gave it birth. In Canada its exit may be hastened by insistence on other and more satisfying music, both in the dance room and in the theatre.

Editorial Notes

The advantage of having energetic representation in the federal field was illustrated in the announcement, received by Mr. W. Chester S. McLure, M. P., from the Postmaster General and published in yesterday's Guardian, that an air mail service between Moncton, Summerside and Charlottetown will be re-established this winter.

The opening of diphtheria immunizing clinics at the Red Cross headquarters on Friday afternoon is of importance to all our citizens. Last year great progress was made in this work but there are still many children, especially of pre-school age, who have not yet been inoculated. The health of children is of more importance than all our other activities combined. If it is possible, as medical experts believe, to completely eradicate diphtheria in a community by means of toxoid treatment, the attempt is well worth the slight expense and inconvenience involved. It is to be hoped that this year a much larger percentage of children from rural communities will be brought in for inoculation.

Notes by the Way

"I would vigorously suggest that all traffic regulation as to crossings and affecting busy points, should be made for the protection of those who are fortunate enough, or, perhaps, lucky enough, to use their feet as a mode of locomotion", so said Judge Greenfields, Montreal, in concluding his judgment in awarding \$1,000 damages to the father of a boy who was injured on the street by a motor truck. It will be well if other courts throughout Canada should be equally severe as well as equally just in cases of this kind. Vehicles have no rights on the street superior to those of pedestrians and the safety of the latter is as much the business of the law as that of regulating vehicles in traffic.

With becoming modesty the splendid new building in Fifth avenue of the Canadian National Railways has been opened. Sir Henry Thornton attended, but there were no ceremonies. Many a smaller institution has been inaugurated with pomp more fitting; few business offices in the world compare with it in taste and beauty.

International debts can only be cleared in goods or in gold. In 1920, when Europe in payment of war debts undertook in round figures to send to America 70 million sterling per year in goods or gold, they undertook something which common sense now shows they never could do. But it was a start; it was, as it has been for centuries, the imperfect attainable something which all practical men accept for the idealistic unattainable.

Wheat is wheat, whether it is grown under republican institutions or communist; the world market deals in the grain, not in the political philosophy that inspires or coerces its growers. That such competition is among the possibilities—nay, the probabilities—of the immediate future should be weighed without prejudice by the wheat farmers. There is available in U. S. 235,000,000 acres and in Russia 855,000,000 acres of wheat growing land.

The opinionated encounter many false opinions in the world, but always among their fellowmen. To entertain an opinion demands disbelief in the opinions of those who think otherwise. Perhaps the only reason there are two people who think alike in the world is because the production of different opinions has not kept pace with the growth in population.

This conflict of opinions is ever present. The more common demonstrations are afforded by politics, religion and prohibition. Everybody generously concedes his own opinion to be right.

The disconcerting fact about some of the most important news that comes from China is that no matter how desperate it may be it has simply to be read and wondered over. Nothing can be done to interfere with the conditions which the news reveals, however much interference may seem to be demanded by the circumstances. China is living a life of its own, very different from any sort of life the people of the Western countries are able even to imagine. The latest example of this tragic truth comes in the despatch from Shanghai announcing that thirty thousand Chinese have been massacred by a Mohammedan army in the Province of Kansu, one of the provinces in the interior bordering on Tibet. The details of the massacre are meagre, the reasons promoting it more meagre still. All we have is a brief news item disclosing a horrifying episode which happened within the past week or two. It will be read, and shrugged over, and forgotten. There is nothing Canada can do about it. China baffles the wit of occidental men.

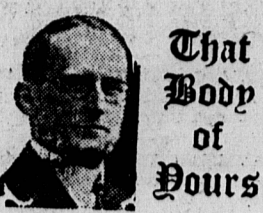
Hon. H. H. Stevens added to his new years manifesto to the people of Canada.

If we wish our fellow citizens to prosper we must do our utmost to patronize them by using their products whenever possible.

Every dollar put in circulation in our own community helps to put it where it will be of real service to us. It will come back. Buy Canadian Products and help promote prosperity in Canada.

"I am far from implying that even worse things than war may not come to a state. There are circumstances in which nothing can so well become a land, as I think this land proved when the late war did break out and there was but one thing to do. There is a form of anaemia that is more rotting than even an unjust war.

The end will indeed have come to our courage and to us when we are afraid in dire mischance to refer to the final appeal to the arbitrament of arms. I suppose all the busy of our race, alive and dead, join hands on that."



That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D. USING BAKING SODA DAILY

One of the home remedies that has been used for generations is ordinary baking soda. Mothers have used it with children to "sweeten" up the stomach which has been upset from some cause. Every sufferer from indigestion has at some time used it daily. In latter years it has become the treatment in ulcer of the stomach and intestine.

Whenever an individual feels a little "sick" at the stomach, gets a depressed or melancholy feeling, he gets the idea that he has too much "acid" in his system, that he is suffering with acidosis, and accordingly takes large daily helpings of baking soda.

Now what about this? Is baking soda really helpful in all the above conditions? There can be no question but that it is helpful, and that practically all of the above conditions are helped by its use.

During the past few years the question has been asked as to whether the daily use of baking soda is harmful to the system.

It has been shown by research physicians that in some cases the baking soda increased the flow of stomach juice to a harmful extent; that large doses brought on considerable irritation of the stomach and intestine, with some depression of the entire system. However, this irritation was not lasting in its effects; in fact the effects disappeared immediately the use of the baking soda was stopped.

Dr. J. E. Boyd, University of Chicago, has been carefully observing the effects of this household remedy.

His results show no bad after effects from its use. Not even was any effect shown immediately after the use of large doses, does much larger than generally taken.

Now this doesn't mean that the use of large doses of baking soda can be used with no bad effects by everybody. It does mean however that the use of a quarter, half, or full tea-spoonful or even more, everyday or three times a day, may be safely taken by the majority of people.

It is certainly refreshing to have this matter investigated for us in this way so that this popular household remedy may continue to benefit mankind.

Napoleon And Canada

(Vancouver Province) One of Napoleon's maps, lately come into possession of the French Geographical Society, suggests that the Little Corporal planned at one time to conquer Australia and annex it to France. If Napoleon had any such designs, it must have been because he hoped to strike at his arch-enemy, Britain, in this way, rather than because he really coveted the great island continent in the South Seas. He had plans, too, it is known, for striking at Britain through Canada and entrusted their carrying-out to Marshal Bernadotte, afterwards King of Sweden. The plans were in course of preparation when the Russian campaign was undertaken, and the disaster of the retreat from Moscow made necessary their abandonment.

In his book, Mackenzie of Canada, the late Dr. M. S. Wade quotes a letter from William Mackenzie of Gairloch to his kinsman, George Mackenzie of Avoch, a son of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, a great figure in Canada in the fur-trading days and the first man to reach the Pacific by the overland route. The writer of the letter tells at considerable length of a conversation he had with Bernadotte in 1824, in which the latter explained the plans he had made for a surprise attack on Canada. It was his intention to ascend the Mississippi and Ohio to the Great Lakes and fall on Canada from the South. Arrangements, of course, were to be made with the United States.

In laying plans for his campaign, Napoleon gathered all the information regarding Canada that he could lay his hands on. He had heard of the exploratory journeys of Sir Alexander Mackenzie, down the Mackenzie River to the Arctic and overland to the Pacific, and had a copy of Mackenzie's "Voyages" smuggled into France and translated into French for the use of himself and Bernadotte. A three-volume copy of this translation formed part of Napoleon's library at St. Helena, and afterwards passed into the possession

on that."

The Old Man's Game

(Leigh D. Brownlee in the London Spectator)

"Golf is the peculiar game of a peculiar people; its trend is onward in parallel lines; it is the pastime of the Scots." Twenty-five years ago that definition—uttered by a very fine golfer no longer with us—was a singularly apt description of a game which to-day is internationally popular. In this year of grace, nineteen hundred and thirty, to describe golf as the pastime peculiar to residents north of the Tweed would be to qualify oneself for inclusion in a home.

And yet I take leave to think that in those three terse sentences may still be found much subject for thought and not a little help. The essence of golf, I venture to assert, lies in the power to look closely at a small white ball, and, still looking, to hit it towards a certain point in the fewest possible shots.

When this was realized in the early days of English golf, when, in fact, the secret of this "peculiar game of a peculiar people" became known, there arose that contemptuous cry: "Golf is an old man's game!" Surely none but an old man and a feeble could want to hit a wretched little ball into an insignificant hole with the aid of several very ugly and rather clumsy sticks?

And while the scoffers left golf to the old and Scottish, there were not wanting young men who, in furtive, shamefaced fashion, sought to ascertain for themselves the lure of this peculiar pastime. Having found that lure they passed on the information.

So grew the popularity of golf. But there always remained the strange fact that in golf the old man was often the match for the younger. Guts and skill were the equal of muscle and youth.

In truth, the scoffers had termed golf an old man's game with greater reason than ever they realized. And when I hear that parrot cry raised, I take comfort in the thought that in the serene and yellow I can indulge in the peculiar pastime with greater success than in my youthful, heedless days. True, a few yards have gone from the drive; no longer do I bemoan the fact that falling light will not permit of a third round in the day; a caddie is comforting and refreshing (also Scottish) not unwelcome when the round is done. On the other hand, I seem to hit the ball more accurately; there are fewer fizzes, fewer off-days. What I have lost in brilliance I have gained in steadiness and skill. In brief, I have reached old age, when it is possible to appreciate just what that great golf meant when he described the game as peculiar and Scottish.

The first Scots golfer was a dour and calculating soul; to that peculiar game he applied all the caution, care, skill, foresight and concentration peculiar to his race. Early on it was apparent to him that to hit a small white object with any degree of success it behoved the hitter to look closely at that particular object until it was safely and straightly despatched on its way. To him golf was a series of journeys (on the part of the small white ball) from one given point to another. "Onward in parallel lines" as he thought of his partner's progress; or perhaps (as a Scot and an optimist) he hoped that while his ball flew straight and true, his partner's might deviate from the parallel. And if he applied that same care and calculation whenever he addressed the ball, there was no reason why every shot should not proceed on its way in the best Euclidian manner.

In short, for golf were required prudence, care, caution, forethought and concentration. What were these but the attributes of a Scot? "The peculiar game of a peculiar people." The cap fits.

Now I come to my parallel. If prudence, care, caution, forethought and concentration are the attributes of a Scotsman, they are also those of an old man. Hence my joy when I hear that mocking cry: "An old man's game." I am old, but I concentrate and look at the ball; I am old, but in me there is sufficient caution to play short with an iron rather than go for it (youthfully and boldly) with a brassie; I am old, but I can think far enough to realize that, though my opponent outride me by fifty yards, I, too shall be there or thereabouts in two, and that I have forgotten more about approaching and putting than he has ever learned.

Yes, I think they blend—the old man's game and his Scottish pastime. And if you want to see a pretty match, put the old man up against the Scot.

A Great Jew

(Mail and Empire)

The death of Lord Melchett removes one of the most vigorous personalities in the British Empire. He was an ardent Imperialist, one of those noble Jews who have added materially to the greatness and prestige of Great Britain and the British Empire. He served as a minister of state during and after the war, and all his energies were ever at the disposal of his King and country.

Perhaps the ablest British industrialist of his day, he had a large stake in Canada. An enthusiastic advocate of industrial rationalization and improved relationships between industry and labor, he has of late years been a power behind the movement for Imperial economic unity. Within recent months he published a stimulating little book regarding the resources and economic potentialities of a fiscally united Empire. Two or three years ago he broke with the British Liberal party to promote the ideal of world-wide British unity and co-operation. He was an outstanding personification of what the British Commonwealth owes to the Hebrew race and of what the Hebrew race owes to the British Empire.

Policemen's Limousine

(Toronto Globe)

The New York authorities are curious to learn how a number of the city policemen, whose salaries run about \$250 a month, can afford the most expensive limousines, diamond rings, and elaborate summer homes in the country. In fact, this curiosity has developed into suspicion, and the bank accounts, cheque books and share market transactions of 160 of these men are now under investigation.

The inference is obvious. New York appears to be afflicted with the same condition that has overtaken Chicago, Detroit, and other large cities in the United States. In all of these centres there is altogether too much evidence that many members of the police force are hand-in-glove with gang leaders of the underworld. The Magistrates are not exempt from the investigation that has been begun and there are indications that before the probe is concluded many a bench will be vacant. This will mean elections for the new dispensers of justice, and there need be no doubt that in these contests the "racketeers" and their kind will not be idle. The simple fact is that the criminal element in these cities has got out of hand, and only years of determined work by law-abiding citizens will clean up the mess.

The people of Toronto should not be boastful, but they should be thankful, that this city is free of such deplorable conditions. They should be thankful for a police force that is beyond reproach. First of all, this may be attributed to the fine character of the men, all of whom are conscious of their responsibilities as guardians of the city and zealous in the discharge of their duties. The administration offices have been occupied by men of first-rate ability, and at no time has this been more in evidence than it is today.

With a capable Chief directing a body of well-trained, honest and alert constables, there need be no fear that Toronto will experience any of the startling exposures that have proved so humiliating to large cities in the neighboring Republic. Perhaps the highest tribute that has been paid to this city's police force is the recognition by crooks across the border that Toronto is no place for their criminal operations.

Let the soldiers dream of killing, as the old maids dream of marrying. But organize in every conceivable way the practical machinery for making each successive chance of war abortive.—William James.

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The Royal vs. Chicago (Manitoba Free Press) With the Royal Agricultural show at Toronto and the International at Chicago over for another year it is a good moment for the Canadian West to consider whether or not it is time to drop exhibits to the International and concentrate on the further development and expansion of the Royal Agricultural at Toronto, which is yearly becoming more international in character. In a number of classes it has become more of an achievement to win at the Royal than at the International. This was demonstrated at the shows of 1929, when the Clydesdale horses standing seventh and eighth at the Royal were champions of the breed at Chicago. This year no western Canadian livestock went to Chicago and it is not probable that any government assisted exhibits of livestock will be sent again, though individual breeders may send at their own expense. Let the soldiers dream of killing, as the old maids dream of marrying. But organize in every conceivable way the practical machinery for making each successive chance of war abortive.—William James. The puritan hated bear baiting, not because it gave pain to the bear, but because it gave pleasure to the spectators.—Macaulay. The soul's supremacy has this fitness, that it is from the inner spirit of a man that there leap those and subduing forces which help to mould and fashion those external about us, and which we denote by that mysterious word, Influence.—G. Bessley.

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