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QUALITY

The keynote in all the discussions at the various meetings held during the farmers' conventions this week was Quality. If no other instruction were given than persistent insistence upon this one word the conventions would repay all the trouble and all the expense incurred.

Quality in animals, quality in produce, quality in marketing, quality in individual and provincial reputation—all summed up and adopted as our special Prince Edward Island characteristic would open for us the best markets in the world and bring us the highest prices the markets could afford.

Mr. W. A. McKay, Dairy Superintendent of Nova Scotia in discussing the cheese and butter question placed special emphasis on quality. Mr. McKay's experience in handling dairy products enabled him to speak authoritatively on the subject. He knew all the shades of quality, in texture, in odors, in appearance and the effect these had upon sales and prices. Our butter and cheese are made for a very fastidious market, so fastidious and so sensitive that even a shade of quality is detected and either makes or mars the sale of the article. To ensure the finest quality he gave the recipe—a well-manned creamery. The creamery that is "well-manned" has an absolute guaranty of quality. The cheese or butter maker who knows his business will not accept faulty milk, will not put up with faulty equipment and will not manufacture a faulty product. He will insist upon the best no matter what the cost may be—and in this he is true to his employers; by being penny wise in trying to avoid expense he would be pound foolish and false to his employers. Cool curing rooms were insisted upon by Mr. Morrow and Mr. MacKay and it is hoped that all creamery patrons will see the advantage of this and act promptly upon the suggestion. A few dollars spent in equipment will mean many hundreds of dollars in the output of the factory.

Our milk production, for the size of the province, is very considerable. With a reputation for quality, and every creamery should aim at this, we have a source of wealth production that will increase with the years a source from which the more we draw the more we shall be able to draw.

Whatever else those who attended the various conventions may take home with them we trust the word and the virtue of quality will have the foremost place. Quality, like charity "never faileth". We may talk and preach and advertise but we cannot put a faulty article on the market and get the price for it.

GREAT BRITAIN'S WEALTH

A vague idea may be had of Great Britain's enormous wealth when we learn through figures recently published that during the year 1920 she reduced her national debt by two hundred and forty-seven million pounds, approximately twelve hundred and thirty-five million dollars.

Britain's national debt at the close of 1920 was nearly eight billion pounds.

While these figures are practically incomprehensible we can see in them the source of that apparently inexhaustible stream which flowed during the world war, supplying her allies with money, with equipment, with food which she had to buy elsewhere. And the secret of this wealth is that she owes over five sixths of this debt to her own citizens. Less than one sixth or one billion, one hundred and sixty three millions is owed to foreign countries.

Some idea also may be had of British efficiency in finance when we learn how the repayment of her foreign obligations are arranged for. The war of course added enormously to her borrowings but the repayments were so adjusted that the shock of war would be well recovered from before making any repayments. On the debt held at home comparatively little is due this year. Some eight hundred and fifty million pounds of the home debt is due to be repaid during the four years after 1921.

The maturing home debt comprises approximately 275,000,000 pounds of exchequer bonds and the balance is national war bonds. Of the maturing foreign debt 81,850,000 represents payments due the United States on treasury bills, notes and for silver advances; and 29,568,000 pounds is Canadian bank loans. The remainder is due to Japan, Sweden and Mauritius.

THE AGITATOR OUT OF WORK

If the present decline in the power of organized labor over industry due to the temporary surplus of workers, says the Ottawa Journal, should have the effect of reducing the position and influence of the professional agitator, there will be benefit to industry as a whole and particular benefit to labor itself. The labor agitator had his season of prosperity during the period of labor shortage and he got out of it "all the traffic would stand". But he did more harm to those who hired him as their representative. He played the game of the Reds and the I. B. U's and the social revolutionists. His aim was not to promote agreeable relations between employees and employers, but to create strife where he could. As a result of his activities, labor lost much that it

CURRENT COMMENT

RESTRAINT OF TRADE

This is the Patriot's latest cologne of apologetic for the wholesale liquor license provided for by the Bell Government under the specious cloak of the Taxation Act. To the social Congress proposal to increase the fee to \$10,000 this is the silly answer. There are different methods of restraining trade, some within the powers of the provinces and some, most fortunately beyond their reach. Our friend has developed a sudden tenderness upon the question, and if its readers were as limited in common sense as it imagines them to be it might get away with its bluff. Does the Patriot now step down to the admission, contended by us last spring that the Government have been UNLAWFULLY TAKING THE PEOPLE'S MONEY? If a \$10,000 tax upon the wholesale dealer in liquors is unlawful, THEN THE \$1,000 TAX IS EQUALLY BEYOND THE LAW. Where a tax is practically no limit to the rate, and the one time Liberal organ ought to know this, and we believe it does. It is as if it argued that \$10,000 fee would be unlawful then the \$1,000 which they are now collecting, is not only a breach of the law, but for the purpose also of violating the Prohibition Act, and of doing violence to the moral and temperance sentiment of the province.

But this question has been thrust out in all the strong courts of the Empire and the decisions reached, particularly on this phase of the question, so simple that a child could understand. The right to ship intoxicants into a province is admitted one which only the Dominion parliament can abridge or prohibit. The right to store, cart, transfer, bottle, can, ship or otherwise deal with the goods, is equally a matter within the boundaries of provincial legislative powers. The decision of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, admitting the right to land liquors in another province, but as soon as landed it comes under the jurisdiction of the province, to deal with it as they see fit, even to the point of confiscation and destruction. Perhaps the Patriot will now offer the contention that our legislature cannot enact laws to prevent intoxicants being stored, bottled, diluted, cased, carted through our streets and otherwise handled within the province. When it succeeds in this, will it qualify the provincial power to limit or restrain its retail sale and use and establish our Prohibition act as ultra vires of the legislature.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Leuson.

THE RENEWING OF THE MIND

(By the Right Rev. P. H. DuVerne, Archbishop of Quebec.)

The scientific way of transforming the character is by the renewing of the mind. The laws of the human mind which modern psychology has established beyond dispute, is this: The life follows the thought. "As a man thinks in his heart, so is he."

A man thinks unpure thoughts and holds these in his mind. It is only a question of time and opportunity before he becomes unclean in his life. If a man thinks thoughts of envy, hatred and malice, and holds these in his mind, it will be only the outward restraint of the power of the State which keep him from reeking his vengeance upon his poor, unfortunate victims.

A man thinks kind thoughts, noble thoughts, good thoughts, and holds these in his mind, he will be meekness, and without effort, now like his thoughts—kind and noble and good.

Instead of the old thought of interest which has been dominating his life in the past let him put into his mind the new thought of brotherly love as taught by Christ and inspired by His Spirit. Instead of the old thought of envy, hatred and malice, which will poison any disposition, let him put into his mind the new thought of kindness and good-will, as taught by Christ and inspired by His Spirit.

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 expressed by its correspondents.

THE SMELT FISHERIES

Sir,—I see by the different reports of the Fishery Officer that the smelts in this province are very scarce and as for St. Peter's Bay and Morris River it is a total failure. I think that the fisheries of this province should have at least ten days extensions owing to the high cost of living and this is the only time of the year that the fishermen can get any benefit of the American market.

I am, Sir, yours,
 FISHERMAN

The liquor interests were well aware of these conditions when they proposed this \$1,000 subscription, and not improbably some in the councils of the Government are laughing up their sleeves at the east walk over they have had in this shoving of the prohibition act, or this important feature of it. Of course the excuse will be offered that this \$1,000 fee is not a legal protection to the wholesalers, but only in the nature of a sympathetic endorsement of the business by the Government. This is true, and there might be a rude awakening if Temperance interests instituted a prosecution and established, despite this cloak of Bell combination, that these men have no great or rights under the Prohibition Act than has any other private citizen. If we interpret public official duties aright, we believe the law officers of the Crown should long ago have instituted such proceedings.

There are other points upon which the tender conscience of the Patriot should be aroused in this "RESTRAINT OF TRADE" question. When trade is restrained in violating laws recognized as valid the injured parties have their sufficient recourse to the courts. But when these things happen under cover of, or as often occurs, under strong color of actual law, the injustice becomes intolerable. Where can you find an Act in this Province more surely aimed at the "restraint of trade" than the Income Personal Property clauses of the Taxation Act. We have been clamoring for more business enterprises and the opening of new industries in the province, AND WHAT IS THE PROSPECT HELD OUT TO SUCH? In other places bonuses, and invariably immunity from taxation is liberally offered. In this province the inducement held out by the Bell Government, is if you make a handsome profit and a success of your enterprise we will tax you ON THE FULL EXTENT OF YOUR INCOME, AND THE HIGHER YOUR INCOME, AND THE LARGER THE BUSINESS YOU CONDUCT, THE HIGHER WILL BE THE PERCENTAGE OF TAXES COLLECTED FROM YOU.

But there is even a more depressing wet blanket than this thrown over such a prospective enterprise. The capitalist is told, in actual fact of law that if he invests his wealth in any industry or calling, beneficial to the province, and that enterprise turns out unprofitable, as it is in its infancy likely to be, AND RETURNING NO INCOME OR PROFIT TO THE INVESTOR, then in such a case, HE WILL TAX YOU ON THE CAPITAL INVESTED IN THE FORM OF A PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX. Then again if two or more business concerns, already established, decide upon co-operation for the expansion of business buying in larger quantities at lower prices, and increasing the business output, they are informed that, NOT ONLY WILL THEY BE TAXED UPON THEIR INCREASE OF BUSINESS, BUT AT A HIGHER PERCENTAGE OF TAXATION. IN SOME CASES FIVE AND TEN-FOLD, to punish them for their enterprise. Surely this is the "RESTRAINT OF TRADE" with a vengeance, and of that kind that come within the boundaries of provincial legislation. Yet dreadingly the Patriot talks of "RESTRAINT OF TRADE."

Disgracefully, must it be said, some of these restraints are the outcome of Orders in Council, a method of government most violently denounced by the Bell Government and the Patriot in their opposition days. It will be well remembered how these and their demagogue heeled shouted themselves hoarse in condemnation of the Mr. Hines and Arsenault regimes because some war emergency and other legitimate business was disposed of in this way. Yet now that they have control this old sin has become a virtue and Orders in Council more sweeping than ever before seem apparently going to the extreme of superceding the statutes, have become more prolific and more dangerous than ever before.

British-Russian Trade Agreement
 LONDON, Jan. 25.—Terms of the British-Russian preliminary trade agreement which M. Krassin, Soviet representative has taken to Moscow for consideration officially has been made public. The most important terms follow: Each party agrees to refrain from hostile action or propaganda outside its borders, against other institutions, Soviet particularly agrees to refrain from an encouragement of Asiatic peoples action against British interests, especially in Asia, Minor, Persia, Afghanistan and India.

British subjects in Russia and Russians in Great Britain will be permitted to return to their homes if they so desire and each agrees not to impose any form of blockade against the other of any discriminations against trade not imposed on other foreign countries. Ships of other nations shall receive treatment usually accorded foreign merchantships by commercial nations. The agreement provides for the clearance of mines from the Baltic and the approaches to Russia and Exchange of information regarding mines; provides admission to both countries of persons appointed to carry out the agreement with the

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There are two other "restraints" to which the Liberal organ might well divert its attention. Both are of the most serious moment to the progress of the province. The first is the "restraint" placed by the Bell Government upon the musical and industry established by the late government at St. Peter's Bay. The withholding of this invaluable solvent from the farmers of the province is a "restraint" upon agricultural production causing irreparable injury and loss to the province. By lessening the crop output it reduces the power of the farmer to pay the extra taxes imposed by the Bell aggregation, it limits the amount of money in circulation to the injury of merchants, artisans and labor and imparts the real capital assets of the province in its crop volume. The other "restraint" is on Education, by refusing to pay sufficient salary to teachers to induce them to take charge of the vacant schools throughout the province, as a result of which the boys and girls of the land are being deprived of that inalienable right, a common school education at the expense of the state. This "restraint" is another irreparable wrong.

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right to restrict them in specified areas and exclusion of any who are persona non grata; also to free communication and exemption from taxation. The renewal of telegraphic and postal facilities including parcel post will be arranged.

Great Britain agrees to refrain from attaching any gold securities or commodities not identifiable to the British Government property, which may be exported from Russia as payment for imports or securities of payment and refrain as well from legislation against the importation of specie bullion from Russia, from requisitioning such. The Russian Government recognizes the principle it is liable to pay in compensation to private persons who supplied goods or services in Russia and all claims either of the Government or its Nationals against the other in respect to obligations incurred by the existing or former Government, shall be equitably dealt with by the treaty.

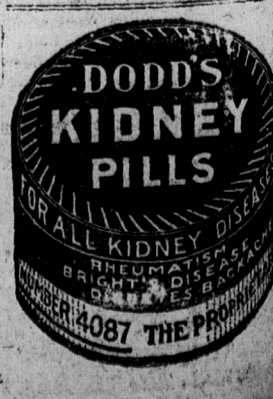
Rev. Mr. Irwin's Arrest a Secret

BELFAST, Jan. 25.—Military authorities refuse to give information concerning the arrest of Rev. J. A. Irwin, Presbyterian Minister, who delivered addresses in the United States when Eamon De Valera was touring that country. Hood quarters has warned all military commands to make no communication to the press concerning Rev. Mr. Irwin.

Labor Members To Blockade House

(Special to The Guardian) WINNIPEG, Jan. 25.—The Winnipeg Free Press Evening Bulletin of today says a blockade of the business of the Legislature, until labor members imprisoned on charges seditious and conspiracy are released is planned by the labor group in the Provincial House according to information obtained at the Parliament.

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