

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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MARKED PROGRESS

Canada is making progress educationally, as in other ways. The latest bulletin of the census taken last year, deals with school attendance and literacy. The number at school in 1931 is given as 2,152,262, as against 1,710,598 ten years earlier. The percentage of increase in attendance at school is given as 25.62 per cent, against the increase of 19.60 per cent, in the population between the age 75 and 24. The percentage of the total population at school was 20.77 in 1931, against 19.49 in 1921. For Prince Edward Island the percentage of population at school last year was 20.73; for Nova Scotia the percentage was 22.43 and for New Brunswick 21.61. The Maritimes, as a whole thus making a good showing, the average for the three provinces being somewhat higher than the average for the whole Dominion. The percentage at school in British Columbia, 17.01, is the lowest of the provinces, Quebec having a percentage of 20.48 and Ontario 20.04, Saskatchewan's 23.48 percent is the highest. The lower percentage of the total population at school in British Columbia probably is due to the number of Japanese, Chinese, and other foreigners there, as well as to the large number of transients with but families, engaged in mining and fishing. From the literacy point of view Ontario makes the best showing with 94.81 per cent. Prince Edward Island next with 92.91 per cent, then British Columbia with 90.01 per cent, Nova Scotia 89.32 per cent, Alberta 88.95 per cent, Quebec 88.79 per cent, Saskatchewan 87.55 per cent, Manitoba 87.24 per cent, New Brunswick 86.57 per cent. Besides those able to read and write there were last year 51,936 who can read only, against 58,264 in that position when the census was taken ten years earlier.

B. C. FINANCING

Details of the report made by a committee of business men on provincial finances in British Columbia are illuminating. A succession of governments, Liberal and Conservative, spent the people's money as if it grew on trees, and nothing but an economic miracle could have averted the emergency which now faces that province. For instance, the Department of Public Works spent \$4,000,000 in 1922 on roads, bridges, ferries, buildings, etc. By 1929 the expenditure on these items had doubled and last year the total had mounted to \$13,500,000. Most of this money was spent in the rural districts where, the report points out, population increased but from 277,370 in 1921 to 299,324 in '31. "During this period," it is added, "3,540 miles of new roads were constructed, making a total in unorganized territories of 18,697 miles." On a section six and one-quarter miles long of the Dewdney trunk road there was spent \$631,778 on right of way, highway construction and protection, during the years 1929-1931. With four "classified" highways running east from Vancouver the department built a fifth to Pitt River at a cost of \$348,326, with half a million still to be spent on it. A bridge crossed on the average day by 35 vehicles cost the province \$176,000. "It is apparent," declares the report, "that political expediency has for many years been the guiding principle of this department of public works." That the situation of British Columbia is one of considerable gravity is shown by figures compiled by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. In the fiscal year of 1930-31 the per capita expenditures of that province were \$40.23 and per capita revenue \$34.55. Both figures were far higher than those for any other province, Ontario, for instance, took in \$15.85 per head and spent \$15.98, Quebec \$14.48 and \$14.21, Alberta \$21.47, and \$24.68, in

fact British Columbia took just twice as much in taxes per head of population as the average for the nine provinces, and spent more than twice the average expenditure. The wonder is that the present emergency has been so long delayed.

INITIATIVE NEEDED

Intervened by the Vancouver Sun, Sir Philip Cunliffe-Lister, Colonial Secretary in the British Government, made this positive declaration: "Under no circumstances will Soviet Russia be permitted to break the market. She will not be excluded from Great Britain, but she must adhere to fair principles of trading in lumber. And I repeat: she will, under no circumstances, be allowed to break the market."

In the opinion of this Minister the 10 per cent preference on Canadian lumber will stabilize the position in the United Kingdom, and this, together with the action to be taken against Russian "dumping," should render the lumber situation satisfactory in the British market. Reporting to a meeting of the British Columbia Lumber Manufacturers' Association, the chairman of the Trade Extension Committee of that body stated that British Columbia lumbermen may look for considerably larger markets within the British Empire. "There is," he declared, "business for us to get, but we will have to go out after it."

Here, comments a Halifax exchange, is a clear lead for the lumbering industry of Nova Scotia. Business in any circumstances does not come to those who sit back and wait for it. In these days of close and intensive competition, it is necessary to go after business, and the advice to British Columbia lumbermen is good advice for all Canada.

A KNOTTY DEFINITION

Everyone, says the Montreal Gazette, who remembers how Dr. Johnson floundered in defining "network" will always turn to that word in a new dictionary. For, since Johnson, every lexicographer has been on his mettle when he came to define "network." Johnson's attempt was: "Network: anything reticulated or decussated, at equal distances, with interstices between the intersections," and someone has remarked that, compared with this, the Irishman's definition is luminous: "a lot of holes tied together with string." The latest attempt is to be found in the newly issued "Universal English Dictionary," by Professor H. C. Wild. It reads: "Network - Reticulated, meshed structure or fabric of cord, wire, etc." This definition has at least the merit of conciseness. Can anyone improve on it?

EDITORIAL NOTES

Canadian vessels are moving the bulk of the grain from the head of the lakes. Carloadings in Western Canada for the week ending August 13 amounted to 4,957 cars, as compared with 2,545 cars the preceding week.

The learned members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, gathered in assembly at York, England, were told by Prof. Miles Walker that "if the world were ruled by engineers and scientists there would be no depression; poverty would be wiped out and everybody would be much happier." This statement, to say the least, is of doubtful validity. Engineers and scientists are useful members of society, but their place is not at the helm of state. Ever since the time of Plato and Aristotle scientific gentlemen have imagined Utopias in which, with unlimited power of imposing their pet hobbies on other people, they produced the Millennium. But the only people who would be happy in these scientific Utopias would be the scientists.

NOTES BY THE WAY

British Columbia, the sunny province of the west coast has set a stern example to Canada and to the world in the wisdom or unwisdom of having too much of a good thing. She had her prosperous years and enjoyed them to the full. Not having enough money on hand to carry out her wishes, she borrowed lavishly, but the chickens came home to roost in the shape of interest and falling revenues. Now she is at her wits end. She is figuring out drastic economies. Among these are the reduction of the legislature membership from 48 members to 28. The cabinet from nine to six, slashing and merging of government departments, closing the London office, cutting of teachers' salaries, curtailment of the University of British Columbia and a number of other slashings and cuttings. British Columbia got into this mess as easily as a log finds its way down a hill. This was largely because she found it easy to borrow money and rolling down the smooth, slippery hill of pleasant pastime. Now she has to climb back again and she can do it, but the ascent will mean struggle and difficulty and suffering. It is the lesson of a nation to other nations, to other provinces, and to individuals. Will the lesson be learned?

The nation should spend not less money, but more, on education, says the London Daily Herald. An elementary school child costs the public \$65 a year, a secondary school about \$100. Who so foolish as to regard these moderate sums as excessive, or too burdensome for the nation to carry? Every penny spent on education is an investment which brings a hundredfold return. There is no asset comparable to a generation sound in mind, healthy in body, and adequately equipped to fight the battles of life.

There is a vital difference between the mile-stones erected by heart and brain and their concrete prototypes. Both may successfully record how far a man has come upon his way. The milestone of the hard high road does not stop at that. Janus-like, it has a face in each direction, and tells him also how far he has yet to go. That is no reason for travelling either recklessly or despondently. Rather is it an incentive so to journey as if the end might be around the next turn of the road, to avoid all distractions unworthy of the goal, and to shed all impediments of mind and spirit which hamper buoyant and cheerful travelling.

It is a pity that the Perfect Suit for men as designed by dress reformers strikes the man in the street as being slightly absurd, because if it didn't millions of men would defy the sun with bare knees, open throats, and unclad arms. Women, who are coolly sensible about such things, feel a touch of pity at the spectacle of Man, the immovable, drooping in the heat under the weight of his heavy armor; he leaves his waistcoat at home, as a daring gesture of defiance against the conventions, but for the rest he carries bravely and hotly on. In the privacy of his office he is a little bolder. The clerks in the British Foreign Office are working in their shirt-sleeves, and in the non-public parts of the Bank of England men have shyly taken off their jackets. But in the streets they are too proud to be cool.

"We think, says the Border Cities Star, that Mr. Bennett, Mr. Manion and the other members of the Canadian Government have real reason to be proud of their efforts at the Imperial Conference. The task that they carried out was not an easy one. At various times it appeared that the whole structure of discussion would fall to pieces. But determination, unceasing energy and a general appreciation of the determination, unceasing energy triumphed.

In Germany the voters at a general election do not cast their ballots for individuals. The ballot is marked by parties and the individual merely indicates on the paper which party he wants to see in power. The ballot for the last general election of July 31, 1932, had seventeen parties listed as officially in the race. There is one member for very 60,000 voters in Germany. One of the flaws found in the German system is that the people are not in close touch with their representatives. In Canada the voters can always approach the member for their constituency. The German system is easier on the members, but the voters don't get nearly so much fun as they do here where they can tell the members what he should or should not do.

The middle aged man of sedentary habit who tries to cram into a vacation of a fortnight or a month sufficient exercise for a year is tak-



That Body of Hours

By James W. Barton, M.D. NEW TREATMENT FOR VARICOSE ULCER

One of the distressing sights, familiar to physicians some years ago, was the large number of cases of varicose ulcer on the leg. These patients had a very miserable time of it. After remaining in bed for a long period the ulcer would heal, only to break down again a short time after getting on their feet. Some times an operation gave good results; at other times nothing but complete rest in bed was of any help. I have spoken before of the excellent results obtained by the use of chloride of lime, (not the commercial kind used as a disinfectant), at St. Michael's Hospital, Toronto. In a series of cases where the chloride of lime, or calcium chloride as it is called, was given rapidly, those with old varicose ulcers found their ulcers healed or healing. Further use of the lime brought about a complete cure. Recently what is called the rubber sponge treatment for varicose ulcers has been used in different parts of the world. Dr. L. Biancalana, Italy, reports very favorable results with this new treatment.

The ulcer is first cleaned thoroughly. A slight cauterization (burning or destroying the tissue) is done with a silver nitrate solution. A thin layer of zinc ointment is then applied and the ulcer is covered with gauze. The rubber sponge must be of good quality, rather hard, and must overlap the ulcer by almost an inch. The sponge is held in place by a bandage that has a number of layers of gauze with a semi-elastic band which is wrapped about the whole leg up to the knee.

"The patient with this bandage can continue to follow his occupation; in fact he should walk a great deal, to make the leg muscles work or contract, thus helping the circulation of the blood in the leg. The patient may feel some discomfort, which will disappear on walking about."

This certainly is a great advance over the old methods of treating varicose ulcers.

Stonehenge Mystery

(Montreal Gazette) The spacious and lonesome areas of Salisbury Plain in Wiltshire still retain a mystery which antiquarians would like to solve if they could. Yet this windswept portion of old England which forms a rough triangle twenty miles each side, and a century ago was described as a sheep track in summer and in winter the haunt of flocks of bustards, still holds its ancient secret. The archaeologists who recently paid official visit to Stonehenge, described by the poet Watson as the noblest monument of Albion's isle, are reported to have spent the day wrangling over the meaning of these stones which have excited the curious interest and comment of diligent observers for at least eight centuries past, and of which Horace Walpole said that whoever has examined them has attributed to them that sort of antiquity which he himself was most fond. It appears that the savants in this latest attempt to unravel the mystery of Stonehenge acknowledged themselves baffled. The debate ended like a wall of lost winds seeking for home; and the only point upon which they all agreed was that expressed by Professor MacAllister: "All our evidence is insufficient and we shall go on conjecturing until the crack of doom." It is conjectured that many thousands of hands must have been employed upon the work, and that, considering the primitive means of conveyance and tools at that remote time available, the labor involved must have been stupendous. That the Stonehenge monument is akin to the cromlechs found all over

ing grave risks. A great many people ordinarily take no exercise except such as they are bound to secure in their ordinary day of work and leisure. Perhaps they would be the better for golf, long walks or setting up exercises, but physical constitutions differ and they seem to get along splendidly. If men such as these, most of them in the natural course of events from business and the professions, men at the height of their usefulness to the community, without adequate preparation suddenly go in heavily for swimming or rowing or golf or any other exercise making unusual demands upon the middle-aged heart, the results not seldom are disastrous.

Astronomy And Ambition

(Ottawa Journal)

The reaction of the recent eclipse of the sun furnished opportunity for many reflections and considerations. To some spectators the appearance of the shadow of the moon across the sun's face evoked admiration for the mathematical exactness of the scientists who could announce long beforehand with amazing accuracy the "second" of time at which this shadow would begin to be visible at various points, how long it would continue, and at what time the sun's face would be clear again of shadow. Two bodies moving at different speeds in different orbits around a third fixed body. What a pretty sum!

According to the vivid descriptive account of a representative of The Journal who was stationed on the Peace Tower, the effect on a lady who stood next him was to cause her to exclaim as the moon approached: "Here it comes. Now, who says there isn't a God?" In others, judging by their comments, the grandeur of the phenomena induced thoughts on the magnitude of the universe and the comparative pettiness of human life and affairs. It would be a pity, of course, if too much of the latter spirit manifested itself. Something may be allowed for temperament. And it is not a new feeling. As far back as October 1901, the late Earl of Rosebery, the silver-tongued orator of Britain, in the course of a public address commented on the necessity of "a sound and adequate scientific training for our captains and lieutenants of industry," and then added:

"But against one sublime department I would utter a respectful warning. It is dangerous to study astronomy, for astronomy kills ambition. What mind, after contemplating the eternal procession of unnumbered worlds—all, perhaps, with their infinite generations of life, their various splendors, their history, their endless rolls of celebrities, their separate myriads of heroes and achievements—can return without a disheartening sense of pettiness and futility to the fleeting objects and transitory fame of his own single universe?"

Those who knew Lord Rosebery would say, no doubt, that such a passage was characteristic of the man and his temperament. In the generation that supervised many marvels have become manifested which at the time of his address were scarcely imagined. So, perhaps, we have become a little less respectful, less liable to be over-

awed. The eclipse, while it will have done well if it has taught us once again that we live in a distinctly "ordered" universe whose laws we will do well to imitate, to the ways of which we should adjust ourselves, will have been even more beneficial, perhaps, if it has fired again ambitious youth still further to probe its secrets and, in all humility, paying tribute to its Maker, to strive to co-operate with Him in turning these to the glory and service of mankind.

Europe, all across the Asiatic steppes, and, indeed, from China to Peru, is acknowledged. But the Wiltshire structure differs from others in its being roughly-hewn and in the presence of shaped capstones joining the 1ers together. Mr. Ferguson, who made a long study of the Stonehenge memorial craft pronounces the work to be "in its simple grandeur perhaps the most effective example of megalithic art ever executed by man." The various dates assigned to this remarkable structure range all the way from the Stone Age to the occupancy of England by the Roman forces. Inigo Jones, the famous architect who examined them at the instance of James the First, thought Stonehenge to be a Roman Temple. Charleton in 1662 attributed it to the Danes. Aylett Sammes (1676), opined that Phoenicians dedicated this pile to Baal of Asheroth. Bishop Gibson (1695), gives it to the Britons without mentioning any special date. Dr. Stukely saw in this stoned circus the ruin of a Druidical shrine; and the while quite a respectable group of antiquarians have pronounced Stonehenge a token of ancient astronomical lore. Sir Richard Hoare accepts the Salisbury Plain structure as "voiceless," and, as Drayton says, the "dull heape" which reaches back to the silence of prehistoric antiquity—

"Ill did those mighty men to trust thee with their storie "Thou hast forgot the names of those who reared thee for their glorie."

And so more impressive than any Old Sarum missal does Stonehenge remain in its awesome solitude and in that hazy light Turner has depicted as falling upon the undulating Downs and the spire of Salisbury Cathedral. Before stones and moss our historical record melts into misty vacancy.



FROM "THOUGHTS OF ENGLAND"

O streams that slow And pure and deep through plains and playlands go, For me your love and all your kingcups store, And—dark militia of the southern shore, Old fragrant friends—preserve me the last lines Of that long saga that you sang me, pines, When, lonely boy, beneath the chosen tree I listened with my eyes upon the sea. Hearing you sing, O trees, Hearing you murmur, "There are older seas, That beat on vaster sand, Where the wise snailfish move their peary towers To carven rocks and sculptured promontories"; Hearing you whisper, "Lands Where blaze the unimaginable flowers." But I will walk upon the wooded hill Where stands a grove, O pines, of sister pines. And when the downy twilight droops her wings And no sea glimmers and no mountain shines, My heart shall listen still.

—James Elroy Flecker.

Canada Comes Through

A series of articles from the Financial Post, written by Mr. Floyd S. Chalmers, editor of that reliable financial publication, have been reprinted in pamphlet form under the general title "Canada Comes Through." Its purpose is to show that in the past century Canada has emerged from ten depressions, and after each of them has gone on to achieve new economic records.

There were black days in 1837 and 1838. Every bank in Upper Canada suspended specie payment. Doubts were expressed if the colonies had any future, but they came through and went on to new levels in the national chart. In 1848 there was another recession. Export business fell off, crops were bad, banks crippled, commercial failures numerous, Montreal and Quebec stagnated. Ten years later, after another period of prosperity, crises abroad were reflected in the Canadas. Over-capitalized railroads found themselves without cash, the land boom collapsed, banks were loaded with worthless paper, municipalities were insolvent, industries virtually closed up and export and import business fell off.

But Canada again came through and went on to new peaks. In 1868 she fell off again, and Mr. Chalmers makes the interesting point that the Dominion was born in the midst of business depression. There was another in the seventies, one in the eighties, and so on. The story of each depression is much the same as the tale of all, and the eleventh is following the course of the first and second and all the others.

"Already," comments Mr. Chalmers, "there are signs that the worst of the crisis is over and that business is girding itself for a renewal of the good fight. From the precedents afforded by 100 years of history we know that the next upswing will carry us to new levels and also help us to consolidate the more concrete gains of our previous booms." Since that was written signs of improvement have become still more evident, and their significance is becoming unmistakable.

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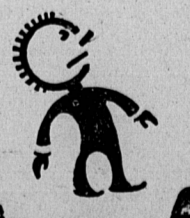
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