

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1934.

ABOUT THAT AUDIT

Our local contemporary, in referring to the report of the Auditor General charging serious irregularities in the handling of relief funds in every province of the Dominion except Prince Edward Island, omitted to explain that the charges concern the municipalities, and that Quebec municipalities are specifically mentioned in the report as having padded their relief bills.

The Auditor General's statement adds that there was "no report" with regard to Prince Edward Island. This, our contemporary might have pointed out, must mean that so far as this Province is concerned, no irregularities were discovered. Last December two chartered accountants of the Auditor-General's department were here for three weeks, and made a thorough inspection of the records, both in the provincial and municipal departments.

As for Mr. Mackenzie King's complaint that the Bennett Government failed to exercise proper audit control, the answer is found in a despatch which appears on the front page of our contemporary's issue of yesterday, wherein it is explained that the Auditor General is the one official over whom the Government has no authority, and that a difficulty had arisen when the Auditor General refused the request of Hon. W. A. Gordon, Minister of Labour, to make certain audits on the ground that it might interfere with the independent functioning of his department and work "a hardship on certain municipalities."

We join with our contemporary in hoping that the inquiry into this matter "will be sweeping and thorough," and that the investigators will "hew to the line, letting the chips fall where they may." Where Dominion payments are concerned, it is evident from the Prime Minister's statement that this is precisely what will be done. He is quoted by the Canadian Press as stating: "If a Province has defrauded us we will get the money back."

The Prime Minister, says the despatch, "emphasized his words by tapping his finger nails on the broad top of his desk while a silence fell across the chamber."

He also made it clear that the check which is being carried on in connection with unemployment accounts by the Minister and his department has been for the purpose of inducing the Auditor General to do his duty. "It is," he added, "a nice mess that we have to face when the Auditor General over whom the Government has no control, through these test audits and letter which he wrote, has made it appear that the Government has failed in its duty when, in fact, the Government has continued to ask him to do his duty and he has failed to do it."

To Mr. King's prediction that an inquiry would reveal "one of the most shocking stories with which the country has ever been faced," the Prime Minister promptly retorted: "There will be no 'Valley of Humiliation' so far as we are concerned."

Continuing, the Prime Minister reminded the Opposition leader that it was under the latter's regime that 19,000,000 in connection with a harbor bridge was expended "without any audit." "I myself," he added, "sitting in the seat which the right hon. gentleman now occupies, pressed that in dealing with these matters provision should be made by which the Auditor General could audit the reports. But there has been a singular lack of effort to audit these accounts, at least up to 1931, and the efforts I made indicated that nothing could be ascertained. And if you compare that, and the position in connection with expenditures under old age pensions, with the position in connection with relief, you will not have difficulty in drawing certain definite conclusions."

THE WAR ON CANCER

On two occasions during the recent legislative session Premier MacMillan emphasized the increasing death toll from cancer and the necessity for early treatment in the cure of this disease. In this connection it is interesting to note that a pioneer movement in the formation of a Cancer Control organization has been launched in Edinburgh, from which important results are expected to accrue. Nevertheless, it is pointed out that the most advanced methods are inadequate unless cancer cases can be recognized and treated in the earlier stages.

"The old idea," says the Edinburgh Scotsman, "that cancer implied a violation of orderly living has been partly dispelled, and nursing associations, health visitors, and doctors may do much to lead people to abandon the folly of hiding the trouble which they dread under the misapprehension that it necessarily means a dangerous operation. Early treatment is the most promising mode of attack on the plague, and if people were instructed to note the symptoms and to seek advice in all cases of suspicion or anxiety half the battle would be won."

MARKETING BOARD

Improved marketing methods leading up to the Marketing Board system have been in operation successfully in Ontario, according to the Mail and Empire which makes the following comment in connection with this subject, now of such timely interest to every Province:

"Markets have been improved and extended through farmer organizations undertaking business-like efforts to eliminate speculation and secure for the producer a fairer share of the consumers' dollar. Many farmers are being led to feel that it is possible through improved marketing methods and agreements to again produce at a profit and bring back prosperity to agriculture. This new type of Ontario farmer organization has been voluntary in character and has generally justified itself as far as it has gone. Its usefulness has been demonstrated. Yet its field of activity has extended slowly. In every case, however, as marketing associations have developed they have sooner or later run up against obstacles and opposition from trade interests and even from groups of farmers within their own ranks which have frustrated or impeded progress."

"It is in the field of domestic marketing that this is particularly evident. Export marketing is not so complicated. Government regulation of grades and inspection has standardized practices, and collective export planning has been measurably successful. It is out of this very experience as to how Government regulations, grades and standards of practice improve marketing conditions for agricultural export that the conception of a Dominion Marketing Board has grown."

B.C. MOUNT OF MYSTERY

It is strange, says a correspondent in the London Times, to reflect that within 200 miles of Vancouver there lies a magnificent range of mountains, covering an area little smaller than the whole of England, which is more remote in some ways than the remotest part of North Australia, and which, for all its beauty, has not attracted one-hundredth part of the attention lavished on the Himalaya or the Karakoram.

Mountaineers who have seen the range say that the Mount Waddington group, which forms its crest, has no counterpart for scenery in any country. In general appearance it is not unlike the Mont Blanc group; its steep granite needles remind one of the Chamonix Aiguilles. Three at least of its glaciers are double the size of the largest in Switzerland, the Aletsch glacier in the Oberland. Surrounded by over 300 square miles of ice-fields towers Mount Waddington itself, the monarch of the range, with Franklin glacier as a long white carpet at its feet and a massive barrier of rugged peaks stretching to the horizon on either side.

"Mystery Mountain," as it is known locally, stands some 40 miles from the head of Bute Inlet and reaches an altitude of 12,260 feet. Its highest peak is unclimbed, but it is the ambition of the Norman Watson expedition recently arrived in Canada from London, to achieve this feat, as well as to explore the Mount Waddington group of the coast range of British Columbia.

Notes By The Way

The British and French Ministers in Vienna have expressed the hope that Mr. Dulles will show himself calm and temperate in his hour of victory. Humanity and a regard for the realities of international politics should combine in commending the wise counsel to the Austrian Chancellor, and advice which will be endorsed by moderate opinion everywhere can appropriately be tendered by the States to whom Austria has just appealed to safeguard her threatened independence.

A fine tribute to the wisdom of British statesmen was paid at an exceptionally well-attended luncheon by Mr. Henry L. Harriman, President of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States. In discussing the progress made under the NIRA, Mr. Harriman said a program of recovery had been operated with no small measure of success in Great Britain long before the experiment was launched by President Roosevelt. He also praised the British government for the great improvement, both industrial and economic, that the Mother Country has experienced in the past year or two. This compliment was merited. Speaking of the decline of trade between these two countries, he said it was due in major part to the Ottawa Tariff. The Ottawa Tariff has turned the minds of the people of the British Dominions Empire-wide rather than United States-wide. The credit for the change belongs mainly to Prime Minister of Canada. The neighboring Republic having by high tariffs deprived us of a market for our exports we, naturally, turned to the United Kingdom and the Imperial conference agreement resulted.

The United States automobile industry's threatened strike was not, after all, quite so completely settled as it was made to appear. There has been a walk-out in Detroit of 1,000 men and another threatens. Henry Ford meanwhile seems to take a delight in pointing out how much better he manages to keep prices low and wages high than do others. Of course no such general comparison can tell the whole story. There are so many points of practice on which firms can vary that sweeping generalizations are often misleading.

"The provincial minister of public works does not think any publicity should be given to the fact that a threatened riot at Fort Saskatchewan jail some months ago was nipped in the bud, with the result that there was no trouble, and that the riot was averted. The public would have been informed of it and jail officials would have been criticized in various quarters for allowing it to take place or for permitting conditions to develop to that point where convicts thought they had cause for rebellion. But the officials handled the threatened trouble in such a way that it evaporated in 1930 when I was in charge that they could utter no justifiable complaints. Should not the public know that the jail officials proved competent in a threatened emergency?"—Edmonton Journal.

There are kind words which ought to be said for "pretty nearly anybody or anything," and so many people are getting under and under and bitter and sceptical remarks that the balance somehow ought to be preserved. So much depends upon the point of view. In the case of a publicity which is a crack-up critic will see the foolish things he has done badly, his errors and faults and shortcomings. But on the other hand, evidence another observer will point out his accomplishments, his successes, the measures he has taken for human happiness and improvement. It is not a matter of mere publicity, but the second, since it makes allowance for human frailties, is the more accurate and the fairer.

The audacious get away with a lot of things because people take so much for granted. We had an example of this recently, near Warsaw. There was a nice railway track running through the country. It was exactly what is wrong with the rail there it was if some one had an urge to drive a train. Along came a man with a businesslike air about him, and a wrecking crew, and a black and white crane. People observed the operations with interest, went home and discussed it over supper. Day after day the work went on; more and more tracks were being laid. The wrecking crew had no license to move the track at all. He was simply stealing it. And he had got away with 50 miles.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics presents figures showing that Canadians spend \$150,000,000 a year more than their incomes. That is exactly what is wrong with the world generally. There is no regard for the wise old habit of earning a little money and spending a little less.

This story of the Chinese and the clock was supposed to have happened in a small American town in the west. One day when court was sitting a Chinese entered with a large clock on his back. He was followed by a crowd of people. The judge, the court policeman held the leader, the judge moved to one side, and the door was obligingly held open as the Chinese, with a Chinaman's grace, stepped with ladder and clock. People thought he was going to do something with the timepiece. He was. He took it to the next town and sold it.

What to do with "teen age boys who persistently defy the authorities and go on from one crime to another with cynical indifference is a puzzle to social reformers and magistrates alike. There are laws in this province, says the Mail and Empire, which have been through the Juvenile Court, the reform school, probation and whetstone, and each effort to reform them leaves them more brazen and case-hardened.

That Body of Wholes

When you visit a home and see all the "fats" that occur at meal time because of the "actions" of the small child, you may wonder which is to blame—the youngster or the parents.

If the child is sick, then special foods and treatments are required, but if the child is well, certain rules or habits must be maintained if the youngster is to grow strong physically and mentally. The Ontario Department of Health in its Mental Health Clinics makes some valuable suggestions under the heading Eating Habits.

Every one should contribute according to his means to make up the money required. The Carleton Club will be a fitting and interesting object in front of our historic "Colonial House."

MR. MALLINSON REPLIES  
Sir,—In your issue of the 11th inst. "ENQUIRER" asks who I am, where I hail from and what is my history, and no one but a cowardly knave would leave the impression that I am a "New Englander," nor would I answer it but for the hope that a recitation of my marketing experience might better justify my criticism of marketing methods here.

I was born in Bradford, Eng., in 1881, left school at the age of 13 worked as office boy for \$1.25 per week in the law office of Furness & Co., Bradford, afterwards becoming managing clerk in the office of J. L. Booth of same City, and later joined my father's firm of J. L. Booth & Sons, Provincial Importers, Bradford, Eng., until 1901 when I came to this country. After a few months in the Dairy School at Kingston, Ont., I worked for Hodgson Rowson Co., Ltd., Montreal, Butter and Cheese Export and Import. When I went west to Winnipeg and worked as travelling salesman for the Imperial Fruit & Produce Co., Ltd., Winnipeg, in 1905 along with H. C. Grand, N. E., a St. Simonsville, organized Stockton & Mallinson Ltd., Regina; Rex Fruit Co. Ltd., Moose Jaw; and the Royal Fruit Co., Ltd., Edmonton, Alta., and during the following years I acted as managing Director of Stockton & Mallinson Ltd., (now S. & M. Fruit Co., Ltd.) and four other wholesale fruit houses in western Canada. These firms are still continuing as branches of Wash Stillington Co., Ltd., Calgary, raised over \$1,000,000 and Bankers Canadian Bank of Commerce.

In 1911 I located in the Fruit Brokerage business in Toronto and in 1912, finding that my work was being thrown out in P. E. I., and that there was an acute shortage in Alberta and B. C., I induced the Bankers to issue reduced freight tariffs to permit a movement to the west, and there were several hundred cars of potatoes shipped from the Maritimes to western Canada that spring for the first time in history. In 1918 I continued as a potato broker in Toronto and in the summer of that year organized the N. B. Potato Exchange Limited, Woodstock, N. B., Bankers the Royalties, Bank of Montreal, Reg. returning to Montreal I spent working with the N. B. Potato Exchange and that market for three years and then opened out as a potato broker and afterwards as a carlot distributor with the Dominion Bank of Canada. In 1930 I lost all I had and in 1931 organized and acted as sales manager of the Potato Growers Association of the P. E. I., Bankers, the Bank of Montreal, selling the first season 735 carloads at a total cost to the loaders of \$6.00 per car (here we think \$6.00 per car is rather light).

Believing there was a better future here than in any other place I knew of I located here a year ago and am selling on a brokerage basis for about half a dozen shippers, both they and I are satisfied, and I am not looking for more shippers.

During the past twenty years I have made many mistakes, and have done a whole lot of good for the potato industry of Canada as most dealers from coast to coast will testify. I have personally conducted four cases before the board of railway commissioners successfully, secured five freight rate reductions from the Maritimes to Upper and Western Canada which saved hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Maritime farmers, assisted delegates in the matter of export freight rates, was the means of securing the reduced freight tariff last spring and through my individual work am assured that I will be reinstated this month; but throughout a busy life, have always minded my own business as long as opposition did not try to interfere with its unfairity. Most of the firms with whom I have been associated are still in business.

PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by interested persons of questions of interest. The Editor of the Guardian does not necessarily endorse opinions expressed.

LIBRARY WELCOMED

Sir,—I am more than pleased to see the leading citizens waking up to the necessity of keeping our beautiful city up to date. It would be an unpardonable blunder not to take advantage of the great gift of books bestowed upon us. Books are costly and very few can afford to buy them. But by taking advantage of the library, we can get all the reading we want for almost nothing.

ENQUIRER'S QUESTION ANSWERED  
Sir,—Enquirer asks: "Who is this A. Mallinson writing in your issue of the 10th?"  
Answer: "He is an experienced salesman whose character is above suspicion. He is a man of wide experience and knows his business, because he knows how, has been the means of procuring increased markets and good prices for farmers' products in this Province, notably potatoes and turnips."

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Every effort is being made to improve the quality and pack of Canadian bacon so as to further interest the British consumer. Approximately 72,000,000 pounds of bacon, representing a very marked increase over the previous year, were sent to the old country in 1933.

The Poet's Corner

THE SPIDER

With six small diamonds for his eyes  
He waits upon the summer skies,  
Drawing from his silken house  
The lacework of his dwelling house.  
He lays his staircase as he goes  
Under his eight thoughtful toes  
And grows with the concentric  
Of his shadowless, thin bow.

He spins himself to threads of dew  
He spins himself to threads of dew  
Lines that cut like slender knives  
Across the insect's airy lives.  
He makes no motion but is right,  
He spreads out his appetite  
Into a network, twist on twist,  
This little ancient scientist.

He does not know he is unkind,  
He has a jewel for a mind  
And logic deadly as dry bone.  
This small son of Euclid's own.  
—Robert P. Tristram Coffin, in the Saturday Review of Literature.

EGG SITUATION  
Sir,—Now that the egg season is approaching and Parliament is in session at Ottawa, I believe the merchants should join and ask the Government to repeal or amend the present regulation on concerning the buying of eggs, on the ground that higher prices were paid by merchants if they were allowed to buy eggs from the farmers according to their own methods of doing business and therefore fulfill the wishes of at least 80 per cent of the farmers.

As it is now a merchant is compelled to meet the expense of a candler or a book-keeper because he has to either candle the eggs or fill in case plans; in the use of the latter method he is only allowed to advance a certain percentage of the price at time of purchase, then when the returns are received he is obliged to make an account and send the balance due to his customer. Now to a merchant that is not going to do anything but satisfy his customer and he will also pay all he can because if he does not, he will not receive the lot of year. In other words, the trade or sale of merchandise, any person who handles eggs can upon examination tell if they are a good grade, a medium grade, or a poor grade and therefore pay for them according to their own judgment, or if he is afraid of any lot, he may mark some and in turn when he receives his returns deal with said lot accordingly; he can put more or less on a mark, he can be more easy solution, he can be compelled to candle or mark all eggs handled. The phrase "to buy eggs straight" does not mean that if a party offers for sale soiled or spoiled eggs that he must receive the same as he would if they were clean and fresh. Many people that can make this distinction cannot candle eggs according to the hand-picked rules set forth in aforesaid act.

The authorities tell us that the present act is the end of all evil in the egg trade. I contend it is only the beginning; I know certain parties who deal in eggs on the cash plan to quote their price on a graded basis and they sure make it look good to the farmer, but then they are only allowed to advance about 75 per cent of the price quoted, and that is all they can do as they never make a rebate upon receipt of returns; therefore creating what I call unfair competition. True it is that this condition is not in accordance with the law, no neither is murder, but that does not mean it is not committed.

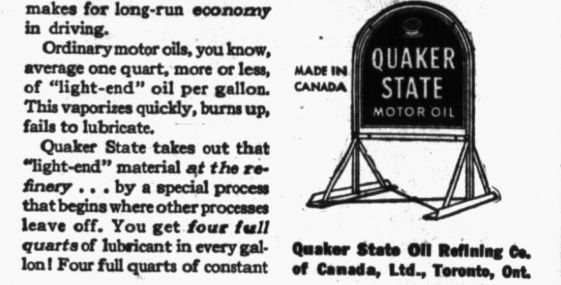
In closing, I may say I wish to hear from other parties their findings, or farmers wishes in the different localities, and strive to hold this, the only, line of trade the rural merchant has left that he may exist against the forces of the chain store or mail order houses.

FREE TRADE  
Every effort is being made to improve the quality and pack of Canadian bacon so as to further interest the British consumer. Approximately 72,000,000 pounds of bacon, representing a very marked increase over the previous year, were sent to the old country in 1933.

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1 Gallon ordinary oil = 3 extra quarts of lubrication  
In every gallon of Quaker State

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HALL & STAVERT MACHINERY & ENGINE REPAIR WORK - WELDING - AGENTS ACADIA ENGINES & PARTS

CEDAR SHINGLES We have just bought 14 CARLOADS CEDAR SHINGLES - Containing 2 1/2 Millions - Assorted Grades From Very Best Makers Prices on Application - L. M. POOLE & CO. PAOLI'S WREARVES

What Of Reciprocity (Ottawa Journal) President Roosevelt's reciprocal tariff bill has been passed by the Washington House of Representatives. But while this bill gives to the President certain power to negotiate trade agreements with other countries, it is by no means the sort of power Canada had in mind when Mr. Bennett was in Washington last April interviewing Mr. Roosevelt.

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