THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1920.

BUSINESS IS BUSINESS.

The mortgagee who forecloses when the mortgagor fails to meet the interest and throws the latter out on the street is acting within his legal rights and on the prinicple that "business is business." If the former be actuated by feelings of humanity he will give the mortgagor a chance and possibly make himself a poorer man. The latter method is not according to business principles, nevertheless it has its compensations and, not infrequently its reward.

This is about the situation in the world today. Great Britain has lent money in almost unlimited amounts to the nations of Europe which were sorely in need, starving, perishing of cold and disease. In some cases she had a reasonable hope that the money would be refunded; in other cases the refund was very doubtful and in the case of Russia, the amount may as well be closed at once into the Profit and Loss account and on the Loss side.

To do this Britain was obliged to borrow heavily from the United States at a time when every dollar available was needed to carry her war expenditures. The effect of the borrowing and the lending has been the present serious rate of exchange and the almost impossibility of doing business with the United States either by Great Britain or by Canada.

The United States government has decided to withold further financial assistance to the overburdened countries in Europe until the latter give satisfactory evidence that they are practising rigid economy and are likely to be able to repay. This is business. Meanwhile, in oredr to recitify the exchange Britain, Canada and the other countries of adverse exchange are curtailing their purchases in the United States. When such an essential of British manufacture as American cotton is being returned because exchange has put Britain's industrial use of cotton out of the question, the great export trade the United States has carried on with Great Britain is nearly at a stand still. Canada cannot afford to pay one hundred and twelve or fifteen cents for an American dollar and therefore she cannot continue her trade with the United States.

This matter of exchange will rectify itself in time but in the meantime the channels of trade will have materially altered their course, perhaps permanently. One of the effects will be a larger trade within the British Empire.

"WHEN THE DEVIL WAS SICK."

"When the Devil was sick, the Devil a saint would be;
When the Devil was well, the Devil a saint was he."

Germany was sick unto death about the middle of November, 1918 and, to save herself was ready to promise anything demanded of her. She signed a treaty with her conquerors promising everything they asked of her and, considering the blackness of her crimes, they let her off easy. One after another of her treaty obligations she has repudiated when shown any leniency; she has begged off from the fulfilment of one obligation after another; she has not fulfilled one solitary engagemnet of her treaty until compelled. Moreover, while systematically evading her treaty obligations she was doing what mischief she could among her neighbors and stirring up strife against her former enemies.

Among the terms of the treaty was one stipulating that Germany should surrender for trial by the Allies all German officers who during the war were guilty of violations of international law and of inhuman cruelties as many of them were. A list of these was submitted to the German Government the other day and the German Government declares compliance with it is impossible.

What is to be done with a nation whose every agreement is but a scrap of paper? The validity of the whole treaty of Versailles is now at stake. The British press is seriously discussing the question and the suggestion is made that, under the circumstances, the complete disarmament of Germany should be insisted upon and also that, as recommended by General Foch, Germany should be compelled to cede the left bank of the Rhine to the Entente.

In all negotiations with Germany, in war and in peace, one thing is obvious, namely that her word is worthless. Provision must however be made whereby she shall be compelled to pay her financial obligations and in order to do this concessions may be necessary, not in Germany's interests but in the interests of the Allied nations. This is no doubt the explanation of a telegram in yesterday morning's Guardian that certain British ministers advised leniency in enforcing the extradition of the war guilty.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

D. B. Hanna told the Men's Club of the Eaton Memorial Church that the average wage of employees of the National Railways in 1917 was $407,, in 1918 it was $1,030, and in 1919 it was $1,200. That is an increase of 200 per cent, whereas the cost of high living has, it is agreed, advanced on an average of 100 per cent. The railway employees want still larger wages—because the public pays.—Mail & Empire.

A report from Ottawa states that of trade credits of $25,000,000 each granted to France, Belgium, Greece and Romania for 1918, but about $40,000,000 has been used. This seems to indicate remarkable recuperative qualities on the part of these countries, more especially Belgium, which has thus far availed itself of only $2,000,000. There is a creditable inference in these figures that the work of reconstruction in countries devastated by the war is proceeding at a far more satisfactory pace than was at first thought possible, which, it is sincerely hoped may ultimately prove to be true.—Hamilton Spectator.

Canadian Leadership

(Mail and Empire)

In keeping with the spirit they showed in the war, the Canadian people are thankful rather than boastful about the manner in which they came through that ordeal. Ungrudging is the praise yielded to Canadian valor by nations whose troops fought side by side with ours, and our big neighbor is still regarding with wonder the amazing resources of man-power, of production and of credit that suddenly sprang up at the call of the bugle in this Dominion. The war, the severest test by which a nation was ever tried, found in the Canadian people a greatness of soul that gave them a national strength far above what might be expected from their numbers.

In all crises the people must have leadership. The body of citizens may be animated by the noblest ideals, but unless they have leadership fit to be trusted with their destinies, they may fall in confusion, may be torn by conflicting counsels, and their will to do the right thing may be baffled. Canada had the best of leadership in the war time. No other country had better, and we doubt if any other had equally good leadership. Sir Robert Borden was the one statesmen who kept at the head of a democratic belligerent nation from the beginning to the end of the war. That he was spared to do so is a cause for profound satisfaction to every thinking Canadian. The people knew Sir Robert before the war began. He had administered the country for three years on lines of sound policy. He had shown himself to be devoted to Canada and to the Empire. The people therefore came to regard him as one of the foremost statesmen of his day. By general consent he was held to be the man to whose hands the fortunes of the country should be committed in the time of war. Nobody else was thought of for that trust. In war time he rose to his greatest height. He surpassed the high estimate his people had put upon him. Among the heads of state in the inter-allied Conference, as among the statesmen of the British Empire, he took a leading part. Every step he took in war time deepened the people's confidence in him. His views as to what should be done for increasing our forces overseas and for putting the economic energies of the country into the struggle were unreservedly approved by the majority. Party opponents gladly turned in and supported his war policy. He was firm in his leadership and the mass of the people gave him their wholesouled support.

How different it might have been even in this loyal and rich Dominion if there had been a weaker man at the head of our affairs! There were people in the country longing to make trouble and daring now and then to show enemy leaning or seditious spirit. Had there been an opportunist in office, or had there been there a man who looked across the border for example and inspiration, the strong arm of this country might have been palsied. Able leadership made possible the glorious part that Canada played in the war.

We have still need of able leadership, and Sir Robert Borden is not here to give it to us. His tremendous war labors have told on his health, and it is absolutely necessary that he separate himself from the cares of office and take a long rest. When the members of Parliament who supported his Government come to Ottawa for the session which meets a little more than a fortnight hence, the question of leadership will have to be dealt with. It is more important now than it was even in the war time that the leader of the Government should be a man of strong character and of commanding influence with the people. By its very nature the war emergency operated to make the people of one mind. By its very nature the sudden relaxation of the tremendous war strain tends to throw public opinion off its usual centres. Unrest is a condition to be expected in the period of reconstruction, and unrest tends to upheaval where Governments are not strong.

The Canadian who with most general acceptance, both in political circles and in the country at large, could take Sir Robert Borden's place at the head of our affairs is Sir Thomas White, one of the ablest men that Canada has produced. Without the aid of Sir Thomas White, Sir Robert Borden's leadership could not have been the wonderful success it was. Sir Thomas has a genius for finance. The people soon recognized his remarkable powers and unhesitatingly fell in with his policies It is safe to say that no other country that took part in the war made such unexpected displays of financial vigor as did this Dominion in the splendid series of Victory Loans arranged by Sir Tos. White. Throughout the long period of Sir Robert's absence oversea the responsibility of leadership and the heaviest tasks of administration fell to Sir Thomas. His financial abilities and his uncommon capacity for work were known to everybody before he entered upon the duties of Acting Premier, in the performance of which duties he showed that he possessed the other qualifications for first place. Members of both sides of the House liked his human nature. The people have had their eye on him, and would like to see him in the place Sir Robert Borden has by ill-health been obliged to vacate. Sir Thomas can give Canada the leadership she now needs.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. S. Louson

"NOT AS I WILL"

Blind-folded and alone I stand,
With unknown thresholds on each hand;
The darkness deepens as I grope,
Afraid to fear, afraid to hope;
Yet this one thing I learn to know
Each day more surely as I go.
That doors are opened, ways are made,
Burdens are lifted or are laid,
By some great law unseen and still
Unfathomed purpose to fulfill.
"Not as I will."

Blindfolded and alone I wait;
Loss seems too bitter,gain too late;
Too heavy burdens in the load
And too few helpers on the road;
And joy is weak and grief is strong,
And years and days so long, so long;
Yet this one thing I learn to know
Each day more surely as I go.
That I am glad the good and ill
By changeless law are ordered still
"Not as I will."

"Not as I will;" the sound grows sweet
Each time my lips the words repeat,
"Not as I will;" the darkness feels
More safe than light when this thought steals
Like whispered voice to calm and bless
All unrest and all loneliness,
"Not as I will," because the One
Who loved us first and best has gone
Before us on the road, and still
For us must all His life fulfill:
"Not as we will."

—Selected.

Others View Point

MR. JOSEPH KNOWLES.

(Evening Times.)

To the younger generation the news that Mr. Joseph S. Knowles has gone to his rest is merely a chronicle in the day's events. To those whose memory goes back thirty to fifty years the name recalls much that was joyous and sprightly, in times when the play of wit and humor added spice to a life far less strenuous than men lead today. "Joe Knowles," in those years was the life of every group in which he moved. His good humor was irrepressible, his laughter contagious. The humorous side of every incident or characteristic appealed to him, but there was no sting in his comments on men and things. His store of jokes and funny stories was inexhaustible, and by the turn of a word or a phrase of the kind that provided laughter of the kind that makes the day brighter for us all. His nature was sunny, his social instinct highly developed, and his companionship of the lovable sort that inspires confidence and wins friendship. There was a deeper side to his nature, which made him sympathetic toward all who suffered pain or loss. He developed a talent for humorous writing, and a publisher, but without continued success; although his Gripsack is remembered with pleasure by the old-time men of the road, for whom as for many others it brightened many an hour; and earlier publications of a humorous sort to which he contributed are still the subject of appreciative comment by the older generation. There is a song of which a line reads:—"Brighten the corner where you are." This might be described as the motto of Mr. Joseph S. Knowles. He was withal, an ardent Canadian and lover of British institutions, and retained to the last his keen interest in all that went on about him. In all the comment evoked by his passing there will be none but kindly words such as he himself would speak of others.

"Don't you ever find it hard to be a freak?" said the stoutish tightly laced woman to the fat lady.

"No, not a bit," was the reply. "I often feel sorry for some of you people who seem to find it hard not to be freaks."

HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

The infant son of Lady Patricia Ramsay is to be christened next month in the Chapel Royal, St. James'. Mother and son will leave afterwards for the South of France joining the Duke of Connaught there, and returning to England early in the spring. Everyone who has seen "Princess Pat's baby, including his proud father, Capt. the Hon. Alexander Ramsay, R. N., says without exception that he is the image of his mother. He is a splendid example of babyhood, with eyes of deepest blue—large eyes, like his mother's—and lots of curly dark hair. He is also described by those who have seen him as one of the best-tempered babies imaginable. Young Master Ramsay—his names are not yet settled, but it may be taken for granted that one of those finally chosen will be Arthur, after his maternal grandparent, the Duke of Connaught—was born on the Sunday before Christmas Day. The weather has been so unfavorable during the first eleven days of his life that he has yet to take his first airing aboard. On the next sunny day, however, he will be taken out by his nurse in the gardens at Clarence House. At present the little fellow lies happily gurgling and sleeping in his flainty white cot decorated with pink ribbon bows. His nursery overlooks the garden, and is a large, airy, pleasant room at the top of Clarence House.

* * *

Princess Mary like her royal brother, the Prince of Wales, as well as Prince Albert and Prince Henry, is daily participating more and more in public life than ever before. She is giving the Girl Guide movement a great impetus by her particular interest in that fast-growing organization. She is a very attractive girl, fond of outdoor life especially riding and golf, and has the pronounced executive ability of her royal mother, Queen Mary. There is interested speculation as to who eventually will be the Princess's husband now that so few princes are eligible. Marriage with a commoner would meet with widespread approval, for the English people hope it will be a romance.

* * *

Mrs. C. L. Miles, wife of Mr. Miles, the new Manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce, received on Wednesday at her pretty home on Richmond Street and had a great many callers. Mr. and Mrs. Miles with their two interesting children are entering into the social and business life of the city with a zest that is quickly winning them a host of friends here.

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Among the hostesses entertaining within the week in honor of Mrs. Malcom of Largs, Scotland, were Mrs. Mathieson, wife of Chief Justice Mathieson, Mrs. (Justice) Haszard and Mrs. (Dr.) Fullerton.

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Many former friends heard with regret this week of the death of Mrs. John H. Longworth which occurred at her home in Brandon.

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The very seriously illness of Mrs. Arthur Newbery is causing her family and friends deepest anxiety.

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Mrs. Pomeroy entertained at five tables of Bridge on Thursday evening at her home. The Briars, Brighton.

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A little spirit called dancing or good times seems to have crept quietly into the life of Charlottetown, and old and young are crowding days and nights with pleasure. This,the week before Lent,has been one of the gayest in years with a regular round of social activities.

* * *

The Country Club is quite the popular place to hold entertainments. Besides the usual afternoon tea parties which one meets everday, social affairs are rumored for the next few days and keen excitement is felt over the fancy dress ball in progress for Monday when many pretty and original costumes are to be worn.

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Prof. W. E. Fletcher, of the Royal College of Music and Trinity College, London, the new organist of the Methodist Church, was heard for the first time to great advantage last Sunday and every one was delighted. It is understood Prof. Fletcher enters upon his duties here early in March. He will receive a cordial welcome especially when it is learned that Mrs. Fletcher is also an accomplished musician, possessing a voice of sweetness and charm.

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Among the hostesses entertaining at Bridge this week were Mrs. Harry Miller, Mrs. Gavin Duffy, Mrs. Noel DeBlois, Mrs. A. W. Weeks, and others.

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The ladies who served tea at Notre Dame Academy on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons are being congratulated on their splendid success and the delicious things they provided for their patrons.

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Dr. L. R. Meech of Sydney is being welcomed to the social and professional life of Georgetown this week. Dr. Meech is succeeding the late Dr. Barnes whose death was so widely mourned.

* * *

Mrs. T. B. Rogers, one of the young brides of the new year, received yesterday afternoon assisted by Mrs. W. K. Rogers and had a very large list of callers.

* * *

The big public event of the week was the "Follies of 1920" so admirably staged at the Strand Theatre on Thursday and Friday nights. It was an entertainment entirely new and novel and everyone was pleased with its presentation.

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The daintily served Valentine tea in Zion Church Hall on Thursday was patronized by a very large number and left little to be desired.

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Major Fred May has returned to Halifax having spent the week end with friends here.

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Mr. and Mrs. Malcom after a thoroughly enjoyable visit with their son Mr. J. H. Malcom and Mrs. Malcom left yesterday for St. John and are sailing early in the week on return to their home in Largs, Scotland. The visitors were charmed with Charlottetown and the hospitality received. The friends, which they both so readily made, regret that their visit did not extend over the summer months when the Garden Province is to be seen at its best.

* * *

Sympathy is being extended to His Honor the Lieutenant Governor on the death of his brother, Mr. William McKinnon which occurred on Thursday.

* * *

Mr. Weston Peake is here from Halifax on a visit to his relatives.

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Not for several seasons have any except the narrowest of skirts been made with suits, and the tendency to feature pleated models of generous width rings in a new note that it is believed will help to create a big demand for suits. Women have grown a little tired of the very narrow skirts, especially in view of the fact that the tailored wool fabric dress is such a strong rival of the suit, and that it clings determinedly to narrow lines, so that with dresses still adhering to close reefed lines and skirts of suits somewhat flaring, interest should be keen in both types of apparel.

THE REASON WHY

WHY DOES A FIRE GO OUT?

Fire will go out naturally when there is nothing left to burn, or it will go out if it cannot secure enough oxygen out of the air to keep it going. In the first case it dies what we might call a "natural death," and in the latter case the fire practically suffocates. The fire in the open fireplace, if it has plenty of air, will burn up everything burnable that it can reach. The stones of the fireplace or other parts of a stove will not burn, because they have already been burned, and you cannot burn anything a second time, if all of the oxygen it it was burned out of it the first time.

Now, then, to burn up a thing, you must first start a fire under it, and then keep a constant draft of air playing on it from beneath, or the fire will die out. The more difficult a thing is to burn, the more important it is that you have plenty of draft. If the ashes accumulate under the fire the air cannot go through them in sufficient quantity and the fire will go out. Other things which prevent the current of air from going up through the fire will cause it to go out. That is why we close the lower door of the furnace, to keep the fire from burning out. When we shut off the draft of air from below, the fire in the furnace burns slowly, i. e., it just hangs on, so to speak.

—From the Book of Wonders. Published and Copyrighted by the Bureau of Industrial Education. Inc., Washington, D. C.

That Seal Story

Sir:—In regard to a statement published in the Pioneer on February 7th the correspondent mentioned that a seal came out of the opening below Clifton Bridge and waddled its way to the farm house once owned by the Custom House officer to get a clearance as he stated, when the Conservative had the reins of power. Now under the Liberal rule he would have to go seven miles inland to reach a Custom House. Probably he was going to the woods to get clear of the Bell Government taxation. Or may be he was looking for the mail as we had none here for four days since we got a new mail driver. Or perhaps he was looking for the opening where Mr. Bell promised to supply the farmers with the mussel mud, as he stated here last summer at one of his meetings. Probably he was following the railway line that the Liberals surveyed through here a few years ago as the stakes are still visible. It is doubtful where he intended to go but it is certain now he will go no further till he finds out what the Bell Government is going to do about its many pre-election promises.

I am Sir, etc.
SEAL'S FRIEND

Fox Talk

Sir,—I thought it would not be out of place to say something on foxes, as we are pretty well interested in them, and quite a lot of people have shares in the ranches on our place. Don't you think it would be better if there never was a live fox sent off P. E. Island? It is reckoned the best place in the world for pelts, that ought to be the right place to keep them. It is long and narrow with the salt water all around it. One hour or two with a nice little breeze of wind blowing right across it with the moisture of the salt water, will make the fur the best. Raise all foxes possible, sell them to our foreign friends and our Island ones also, but have them all ranched on P. E. I. Then our little Island will be doing what it was made for; every farm on this little million acre spot could have foxes on it. If there was, say, from one acre to ten acres with bush land or without it, we have not much idea how many could be raised until given a proper test. If there is not enough feed on this Island then import it. Keep every fox here and then that will make work for our Island boys, and returned soldiers.

I should think our foreign friends would do better to have their ranches here, because when they are buying foxes to take away they get, the very best to be had. Now those foxes will go to countries that will not be so good for fur; perhaps their pelts will not bring more than half they would bring if ranched on P. E. I. This would be bad for the business.

We will have to keep our fox pelts to the highest quality in order to pay ourselves and the shareholders in foxes. If our foreign friends had ranches they would be coming over to see them and bring others with them, quite likely in their airplanes. Going home they would have their fox pelts, as they are very light to carry in those airships, to fur sales in other coustries. Would it not be a good idea to have an experimental fur ranch, with so many pens, to teach people how to put up ranches, feed the foxes, look after them, and pelt them? Then if a rancher was wanted you know where to look for one. If, say, from twelve to 24 men had only one pair of foxes each, the offspring of those foxes would go quite a way to supporting those hands. Why, the McDonald Consolidated School at Mount Herbert would make a fine site, as it is idle.

I am, Sir, etc.,

T. H. JUDSON,
Alexandra.

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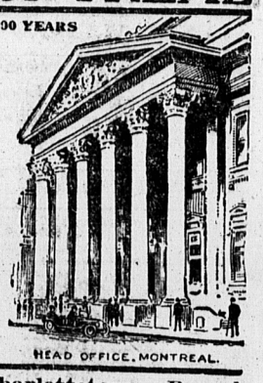

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