

The Charlottetown Guardian

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A Lame Explanation

At long last, the Lea Government organ has admitted that "a recent bond issue" of \$500,000 was made. It states that "these bonds were sold under competition" but it does not deny The Guardian statement that no tenders were called locally, and that the deal was manipulated through a Toronto-Montreal syndicate. Why were local bond dealers excluded from tendering? Why was the public of this Province not advised and given an opportunity of purchasing the bonds? Why the secrecy attending the negotiations? According to Messrs. LEA, CAMPBELL, LEPAPE, MCINTYRE and other leading Government members when in Opposition, the bond dealers and buying public of this Province should be given first consideration when loans are made. "Had they been distributed in Charlottetown, people in this Province might have handled them and made some money, or our investors could have received the profit that has been made by Ontario investors." That was Mr. LEA's attitude at the last regular session of the Legislature. Our contemporary supported this contention, denouncing the Conservatives for allegedly borrowing "a huge amount through private negotiation with a Toronto firm without any proper competition and without giving the local bonding houses an opportunity to bid, or local investors an opportunity to subscribe."

This criticism was used extensively during the provincial election campaign, and had its effect. The full details of the Conservative bond issues (including the purpose for which they were floated) were given in the press. There was no "secret" negotiation of any kind, and if a Toronto syndicate got the business it was because no firm local bids were obtainable. Is that the case at the present time? Our contemporary does not venture to say so. It ventures very little in the way of explanation or excuse. It evidently believes that the less said about the matter the better. It was like drawing teeth to get even the bald admission that the issue had been floated. "The rest is silence."

Politics Indeed!

Instead of complaining hypocritically about "playing politics" with the questions raised by the Medical Superintendent of Falconwood at the annual meeting of the Children's Aid Society, the Liberal press would be better advised to direct its criticisms to the Lea Government, which has shown the most callous disregard of everything but partisan politics in discharging competent nurses and other officials at Falconwood for no other reason than to give jobs to Liberal supporters.

Its own skirts are by no means clean with regard to the contemptible pre-election campaign waged against the first real efforts made by any government in this Province to provide modern mental treatment at Falconwood. On both these subjects Dr. Murchison touched plainly in his address last week, warning particularly against political interference. It is to him, on this occasion, that the Liberal organ would like to direct its venomous abuse—if it dared!

Dr. Riddell Repudiated

Fear of repercussions in Quebec is believed to be responsible for the Government's move repudiating the action of Dr. A. W. RIDDELL, Canada's permanent Canadian adviser to the League of Nations in proposing the addition of oil, iron, coal and steel to the list of goods barred to Italy.

Dr. RIDDELL made the motion a month ago, but there was no intimation from the Government until last Sunday that in doing so he had overstepped the bounds of prudent originality.

MUSSOLINI recently declared that an embargo on oil would be considered an "unfriendly act," which was interpreted in authoritative quarters to mean that it would bring war-like reprisals, and as a result, it appears, the idea spread throughout Quebec that Canada was taking an active part in European political affairs and that this country was in danger of being involved in a conflict.

It was to remove this impression it seems, that the acting Prime Minister, Hon. ERNEST LAPOINTE, issued a statement explaining that Dr. RIDDELL "represented only his personal opinion and his views as a member of the sanctions committee and not the views of the Canadian Government."

Dr. RIDDELL has for ten years been the permanent representative of this Dominion in the Assembly of the League. He was appointed to that office by the former Mackenzie King Government in 1925, and has ever since represented Canada in that position. His repudiation by the new Mackenzie King Government raises interesting questions. The present administration states that it adheres to the fundamental aims and ideals of the League, but it draws back when its representative proposes practical new measures against Italy.

Editorial Notes

The new vendor store in Great George Street is quite a swell affair.

Prime Minister KING will have a lot of explaining to do when he returns to Ottawa from his "spiritual home," the U. S. A.

In addition to Premier LEA and Attorney General CAMPBELL, Provincial Auditor Massey will attend the Inter-Provincial Conference at

Ottawa. Mr. BEN. ROGERS, Jr., has already left for Toronto and will join the delegation in Ottawa.

The back-to-the-bicycle movement for government officials is scheduled to begin after Christmas—in time for the snowstorms.

The vendor at Summerside sent in his resignation a month ago but got no acknowledgment till the day before his successor took over.

Doctors will have to think up what ailment beer is good for, in order to speed the consumption of their additional 15 scripts.

The social season formally opens Thursday afternoon with the At Home of Mrs. DEBLOIS at Government House.

The Provincial Sanatorium Commission have obtained final judgment against Senator MCARTHUR for \$730 balance of subscription due.

Mayor KENNEDY will not attend the Mayoral Conference at Ottawa next week, only the executive of the recently formed Mayoral Association having been invited to attend.

The Government Control policy of Premier LEA is seen in the scheme to encourage beer and wine drinking, instead of hard liquor. An increase of 15 on 50 scripts per month, equal to 30 per cent. is a pretty generous gesture. What is to follow?

Senator MCRAE was the victim of an American "stunt" reporter when it was alleged he intended to raise his own army to fight against Canadian participation in a war. But why did he wait nearly a month before denying the allegation?

In order to provide further incentive for the destruction of predatory animals, Hon. H. C. NIXON, Minister of Game and Fisheries for the Province of Ontario, recently announced a bounty of \$20 on wolves.

The Labour Congress of Australia overwhelmingly rejected a proposal for a general strike in the event of war involving Australia but decided to urge workers to refuse to produce goods for use in "capitalist war." Two decisions hard to reconcile.

If we are to believe the Hon. B. W. LEPAPE, Acting Premier, Dr. MURCHISON doesn't know what he is talking about on the subject of mental hygiene. In Mr. LEPAPE's opinion, as expressed in the provincial election campaign "most of the people at Falconwood only need to be kept warm—they don't need mental treatment."

In New Jersey the constitutionality of the 1931 Motor Vehicle Act has been sustained on appeal. It provides for the loss of license permanently and three months in jail for drunken driving as a second offence. In Fitchburg, Mass., the Mayor FRANK A. GOODWIN has had his license suspended indefinitely for blame in an accident in which he nearly lost his life. He is a son-in-law of Senator MARCUS COOLIDGE.

Around the magnificent new Health, Hospital and Sanitation Building in New York are carved the names of illustrious contributors to the cause of public health from Moses to Dr. BRIGGS, the present administrator, and a correspondent writes to the New York Times asking "Why Moses?" Dr. BOLDUAN, veteran of the department, is at pains to explain that the great Hebrew law-giver was also, considering his times, a public health administrator of the first rank. Over 3,000 years ago he worked out a system for keeping his people in health during their long migration from Egypt to Palestine, providing for quarantine, sanitation and the clean handling of food.

Sir NORMAN ANGEL, former champion pacifist, and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, is mellowing in his views, judging by the advice he gave a peace gathering in New York on Thanksgiving Day there. "Of course you could get peace by a policy of complete non-resistance. There might be oppressions and the end of freedom and democracy, but there would not be war. Yet you will not follow that policy. 'Our problem therefore is not to discover the policy that would simply give us peace. Non-resistance would do that. Our problem is to discover what policy will give peace, subject to the condition of insuring its defense of rights and interests which may collide with the rights and interests of other nations in any part of the world.' His solution was: League of Nations; if Germany had known 22 nations would have opposed her, she never would have gone to war; Italy must be made to honour her signature, if the League is to be saved for peace.

The Nova Scotia Government runs the mine in Inverness, is the principal taxpayer, and practically the whole shooting match. According to the Halifax Chronicle the Government pays some \$12,000 in taxes, the citizens paying only \$4,000. The teachers' salaries are in arrears to the tune of \$16,000, and they went on strike, as the best the Government would do for them was to advance \$3,000 of the \$12,000 taxes it pays. According to our Halifax contemporary "The Superintendent says that due to the difficult conditions in Inverness, special grants were made by the Government, but these could not be continued." Why? Yet the Chronicle takes exception to our supposition that their finances are going from bad to worse. Aren't they? Why was the 3% loan of \$400,000 floated at \$56.61, when at the same time a P. E. I. loan for \$500,000 netted \$97.50? In March Premier MacDonald budgeted for a deficit of \$1,040,232 for the current fiscal year. The unfortunate teachers concerned are prepared to carry on for 40 per cent of current salaries, and two per cent of arrears monthly. If that be a satisfactory state of affairs financially the Nova Scotians must be satisfied with small mercies.

Notes By The Way

On the Red Sea, north of Italian Eritrea, is Port Sudan, in Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. British troops have arrived with anti-aircraft guns and tanks. If there are any complications, Britain evidently intends to have a strong strategic base between Massawa, the port of Eritrea, and the Suez Canal.

An Italian resident in Winnipeg, with some degree of alarm and distress visible in his face, asked a friend this week: "Is it true that I can no longer send money to my family in Italy?" That, the friend assured him, is unfortunately true. There are more than two million Italians in North America alone, and many of them have been in the habit of sending regular remittances to their relatives in Italy. This financial aid, which annually runs into many millions of dollars, is now cut off.—Winnipeg News.

At a local eating place a well-known town gentleman, who is a bachelor, of long standing, complained about the way his order of buttered tarts was served. The usually good-humored waitress was peeved at his complaint. "No wonder fellow like you can't get wives," she commented. "The gentleman and bachelor replied: 'I'm not proposing marriage. I'm simply ordering buttered tarts!'"—Timmins Advance.

Ontario's minister of agriculture declares he will put a clause in the agricultural societies act providing for a cessation of government grants to any fair which permits gambling devices to operate. That is good business. Fairs should not be allowed to do what storekeepers and others are penalized for doing.—Toronto Star.

His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad plans to present a radio set to each of his 20,000 villages when he celebrates the twenty-fifth anniversary of his accession next February. Accordingly, Hyderabad in India will be on the radio map next year and its 12,000,000 inhabitants will be able to tune in on the rest of the world and listen to election speeches, jazz, educational addresses and all such delightful things. The movie and the radio are helping to make the whole world kin.—The Montreal Gazette.

The former Kaiser sent a telegram of sympathy to the family of Earl Jellicoe who, by the Battle of Jutland, bottled up the German fleet. Time brings its changes. On May 31, 1918, the Kaiser would have liked nothing better than hearing that Sir John Jellicoe and every British ship was at the bottom of the North Sea.

The Chesley Enterprise puts in a needed plea for the study of Latin roots. "As far as Latin is concerned," says the editor, "we have found our limited knowledge of a subject which we gain from Latin root words in public school has been very useful to us in arriving at the meaning of words of Latin origin." That has been the experience of many who have not had time or opportunity to become classical scholars. In the primary schools a generation ago much importance was attached to the teaching of Latin and Greek root words. It should be revived in the interest of better English.—London Advertiser.

Selfishness a self-centredness are the greatest enemies of human progress. He who thinks only of himself is hopelessly uneducated no matter how thoroughly instructed he may be.—Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler.

When the project of electrifying Melbourne's tramway system was in the air several years ago many questioned the wisdom of perpetuating noisy and relatively immobile trams in the city streets. It was thought that motor buses would be better suited to modern conditions. The trams won the day. Now that the wheels of time has brought in a mild installment of revenge, the Tramway Board is asking permission to replace the Rathdown street cable trams with a "bus service running from East Brunswick through the city to West Melbourne."—Melbourne Argus.

Exact copy of the real thing, a home made locomotive built at Norway, Maine, hauls passengers on an "elevated railway" laid on 4x8 timbers atop cedar posts. It weighs 150 pounds, carries six tons of coal, and can pull nearly a ton of cargo. Its boiler holds two gallons of water and the tender stores another two and one-half gallons. There are four driving wheels, and a thimble-sized steam gauge which registers 120 pounds of steam pressure.—Popular Mechanics Magazine.

It costs the Italian Government more than 300,000,000 lire a year to keep the Libyan budget balanced. This 300,000,000 lire is paid by Italians at home. It costs the Italian Government another 250,000,000 lire to maintain its armies and garrisons in Libya. This also is paid for by the Italian taxpayer at home. Total annual loss: 550,000,000 lire. Total annual trade between Italy and Libya (in good times, not now): 400,000,000 lire. And after 24 hours of Italian control the number of Italians living in Libya—which is seven times the size of Italy—is less than 30,000, or not quite 7 per cent of the Libyan population. Ethiopia is further from Italy than Libya. It is much harder and more expensive to reach. It is much more difficult to colonize. It is less suited to Italians than the North African coast which Rome controlled and colonized for centuries.—New York Post.

There has always been in this country an undoubted faith in the future of a country so rich in natural resources as Canada. Now

That Body of Ours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

ALLERGIC OR SENSITIVENESS TO FOOD TYPE OF ECZEMA

A few years ago all that was done about asthma was to try to treat the attack; nothing was done about finding out the cause.

Similarly with eczema; various forms of treatment were tried with more or less success.

To-day the cause of asthma is searched for diligently and in many cases have been cured since it was found that certain foods, pollen from plants, the fur or feathers of animals, growths or other defects in the nose were causing the asthmatic attacks.

To-day also eczema is not simply treated with sulphur, mercury, sink or other ointment, but the underlying cause is sought and many cases cured.

During these investigations it was found that asthma, eczema, and hay fever were all closely related to one another and to all three of these ailments was found in many families.

Drs. J. G. Hopkins and B. M. Kesten, New York, in the American Journal of Diseases of Children, state:—Among about 400 cases of eczema studied in the allergy (sensitiveness to certain substances) division of the skin clinic during the past six years, seventy-five were found in which food was the sole or part cause.

Patients with eczema due to food often have symptoms of being sensitive to other substances also.

In forty patients there was a history of this sensitiveness among the patient's relatives.

In trying to find out what foods are responsible for the eczema, skin tests were made, and also suspected foods were left out of the diet.

When the foods are unimportant they are easily left out of the diet but when they are important, or necessary foods for the body's health then it is necessary to remove the body gradually used to them so that it will not be sensitive to them. This is done by starting with a very small quantity of the food and gradually increasing the quantity by a very small amount each day.

The fact that these patients suffer also with hives, asthma, hay fever and one-sided headache shows that eczema is just one part of this sensitive or allergic tendency.

Remember, there are other causes of eczema besides this sensitiveness to various foods, but this particular sensitiveness as a cause should not be overlooked.

The Poet's Corner

MONEY'S WORTH

(A complaint published in 1621)

To see a strange out-landish Fowl, A quaint Baboon, an Ape, an Owl, A dancing Bear, a Gyants bone, A foolish engine move alone, A Morris-dance, a Puppet-play, Mad Tom to sing a Rodeo-day, A Woman dancing on a Rope, Bull-baiting also at the Hope; A Rimer's Jest, and Juggler's cheats,

A Tumbler showing cunning feats, Or Players acting on the Stage; There goes the bounty of our Age; But unto any pious Religion, There's little Coin, and less Devotion.

—Henry Farley.

Mr. Baldwin On Peace

(London Economist)

Seventeen years ago, on November 11, 1918, the last order, "Empty guns," was given. A Great Silence was broken by the sound of cheering men, from the sea to the mountains. The war to end wars was over; the world had been made safe for democracy. Seventeen years.

The youngest combatant in the Great War has reached middle-life, and the children of 1918 are on the threshold of manhood. Seventeen years. . . . But the reverberations of the guns have not died down; the drone of the bomb-carrying airplane has grown more insistent and oppressive. Do the people imagine a vain thing? Is it for nothing that "peace is emblazoned on every party banner in this month's election? "Must the differences that arise . . . between nations be left to force . . . or shall we consciously and resolutely attempt to solve them by the ways of discussion and law that we all adopt as a matter of course for our private differences? . . . That question will in the end be answered not by Governments but by peoples. . . . We have a great, an immeasurably great influence to throw in on the side of peace. . . . Our object is to end war, to end wars that may shake the world as we know it beyond all hope of recovery within the life of such as will still be alive at the end of another experience. . . . It may not be an easy task. . . . But we accept it."

The speaker is Mr. Stanley Baldwin, Prime Minister of Great Britain. The voice is the voice of the British nation, conscious alike of its destiny and its responsibilities.

Jap Militarists Slipping

(London Advertiser)

Great Britain's note to Japan asking for a definite statement of the intentions with respect to Northern China should tend to clarify a somewhat scrambled situation. It seems that the aggressive army clique, which is spoiling for a fight, and which sees in a continuous campaign of conquest a justification for the tremendous armament expenditures which the people of Japan are forced to pay has slipped up badly. They had intended it seems, to have the move for autonomy appear as a spontaneous gesture on the part of the Chinese population of the area involved. Then the Japanese would merely have to step in as the righteous protectors of the new regime, pledged to air in the maintenance of law and order.

Someone missed a cue. Apparently the Chinese officials who had been selected to fill important places in the new puppet State developed cold feet. The assassination of a leading pro-Jap Chinese warlord by a woman patriot may have had something to do with it. At any rate only one comparatively petty chieftain actually issued the autonomy proclamation. Japanese diplomats, fearful of the effect on their country's claim for parity at the impending naval conference, declined to back the army.

When their native Chinese aides fell down on the job the Japanese army chiefs were forced either to curb their ambition or resort to undisguised aggression. Accordingly they seized important railway lines and strategic junction points on the North China railroads. To inquisitive reporters they declared that the movement was merely part of a military manoeuvre or sham battle. Holding sham battles in the territory of another nation is an unusual procedure to say the least.

There is no doubt that the threat to British capital invested in the Chinese railways had something to do with the British protest. Japan has an interesting record for acquiring railways. The South Manchuria Railway was the fruit of the successful war with Russia, and the Chinese Eastern was bought from the Soviets at a fire-sale price, after the annexation of Manchuria had made it practically valueless to Russia and had enabled Japan to apply both political and economic pressure. Incidentally the road was built largely with money loaned by French investors to the Imperial Russian government in pre-war days, and these loans were repudiated by the present Russian government. Chinese railroads have not provided their share holders with much beside headaches in the last few years, but to see them calmly appropriated by Japanese would be the most stolid Britisher. It is to be hoped for the sake of peace in the Orient, that an agreement can be reached by which Japan may be given peaceful scope for the expenditure of her superabundant energies.

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enterprise. Notwithstanding the wide publicity given the falsity of tales that repeatedly crop up concerning vast fortunes lying idle in English banks waiting to be claimed by the heirs of somebody, Americans seem to be the original fall guys when this bait is dangled before them; they bite voraciously. This time, when told that Drake had left wealth that had reached a grand total of \$77,000,000,000, a large number of assumed heirs were persuaded to chimp in liberally to pay the cost of opening up the avenue to this tremendous windfall. Forty-one persons were indicted for participation in the swindle and are now on trial. British witnesses are on hand with the original will of Sir Francis, which shows that he was much nearer busted than a supposedly successful pirate should be. Aside from two small farms, he left but a few hundred pounds in money. It remains for his self-appointed executors to explain to the court all the matter which, it may be hoped will not be ignored by credulous folk who buy castles in Spain.

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