

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SANE LIBERALISM.

It is refreshing to find a newspaper express sane and impartial views on its political opponents. The Halifax Chronicle, the leading Liberal newspaper in the Maritime Provinces, in an editorial review of Premier Meighen's recent speech in Truro says:—

"With that portion of the Prime Minister's speech, in which he urges a return to sane thinking, there will be general agreement by thoughtful Canadians of all parties. Mr. Meighen said:—

"In these untoward and extraordinary circumstances the plain duty of the hour is to think straight to take a good square, clear-eyed look at ourselves and our conditions, and to resolve that we will know for a surety the wisdom of every step, that we will have none of the nostrums of the political theorists and agitators, that we will not be led astray by any Ism or theory; resolve that by hard, honest, intelligent endeavor, by less extravagant living and clean, straight thinking, we will work out our salvation."

The Chronicle in a previous issue had questioned the wisdom of holding a political contest in Colchester County in opposition to the Hon. F. B. McCurdy, Minister of Public Works. It repeats this thought in other words

"Mr. Meighen also uttered a timely warning to those who would set class against class in the country instead of following the good old democratic way of dividing on the lines of principle or solid conviction alone, thus permitting a class majority of all to decide to which political side the Government of the country shall be confided for a fixed term of years."

Quoting the following extract from Mr. Meighen's speech,

"Dangerous doctrines taught by dangerous men enemies of the State, poison and pollute the air. We are asked to believe not in so many words but in fact that we should have class domination instead of a true democracy with government of all classes and for all classes."

The Chronicle proceeds,

"Here again, the Prime Minister is on sound ground. At a time when some people may be liable to be led away by strange and dangerous doctrines, it is well that all should be on their guard against extremism in any form. Undoubtedly much unrest exists in the country, but it is not irremediable and it is less marked and much less widely spread in Canada than in most other countries. For our part we do not share the belief that class movements will have an enduring place in the life and politics of this Dominion. Canada is a land of ordered progress; the heart of the country is sound and true. We have abiding faith in the sober thought, sound judgment and patriotic spirit of the Canadian people. We believe that they will refuse to lend themselves to class or group distinctions and that when they are given the opportunity of electing a Government of their own choosing, while advancing as they must to meet new conditions, they will adhere to the well-tried and well-established system of democratic government, which has made Canada what she is, and, we believe, ensures for her an ampler future as one of the rising young nations of the world."

THE ROADS.

Probably not since our roads were first carved out of the forest have there been as many complaints about the condition of the roads as there are today. Usually in former days the complaints were largely confined to politicians in opposition who could at any time find a rut or a hole for which to blame the government; today the complaints are general, they come from friends—if the government has friends—as well as opponents and certainly with good reason. Probably the maddest thing the present mad government has done was to tear up sections of the roads in midsummer and leave them a mass of unassimilated sods and clay of unknown depth to be converted into a sandy or muddy quagmire as the weather changes. Some gentlemen who drove to the city the other day from Fort Augustus, that good old Liberal stronghold, stated that much of the road while exceedingly bad at present will be practically impassable when the fall rains come. Similar complaints are being heard from other sections and the only good roads to be found anywhere are those that have not been touched during the present summer. The roads in the Royalty which might at least have been repaired are not only a disgrace but dangerous.

This is the condition and this the opinion through out the country while the Patriot is boasting of what the government is doing and is going to do with the new taxes on the roads. What has been done would much better have been left undone, and if it is an index of what is going to be done the longer it is delayed the better.

The roads are one of the Islands best assets and should not be sacrificed for the sake of an empty show of governmental activity.

CURRENT COMMENT

Visitors from the other provinces, and the comments of Islanders attending conventions, and visiting the larger centres, all indicate the remarkable manner in which the people of all classes in Canada are swinging around to the support of our new Premier the Hon. Arthur Meighen and his Government. Never in the history of the country was the change of popular opinion so general and so pronounced in so short a time. Conservatives, the mainstay of the Unionist government, were everywhere discontented and starting in to vigorous separate organization. This now has all subsided and these forces are unitedly behind the Government. Farmers political organizations became the order of the day, for in justice to them economic conditions pointed out a need for greater self protection. Now the farmer is becoming more and more satisfied that their best interests lies in a stable system of government, and an established home market founded upon industrial stability. And while farmers continue to organize, as they should, it is more along the educational and commercial co-operative line with political action left more and more in the rear-ground. In several instances of recent note, the official farmer's political organizations, in the Eastern Provinces, failed to be able to induce the farmers to allow politics to enter much less to dominate them.

The Liberal press themselves freely announce that "Liberalism is aroused." They are jumbling themselves together posthaste for a campaign of a missionary character, if possible to avert the dangers of extinction, the evidences of which are accumulating around them upon every hand. The West, the real birthplace of the farmers movement, and a former stronghold of Liberalism, is showing an unexpected regard for Premier Meighen, one of their own number, who has spent nearly a lifetime amongst them, and who understands their needs and requirements. And so, lest the whole people of the West apostatize from the Liberal party, and fly to the Conservative standard, the Hon. McKenzie King, with some coadjutors are to start on a missionary effort for political salvation. Yet the reports are that no effort of superficial oratory can weaken the pronounced and increasing popularity of our new Premier amongst his own people. Then too in Quebec, always Conservative and Protectionist at heart, Liberalism is rapidly waning. Their great and justifiable affection for Sir Wilfrid Laurier is not being reproved for Hon. McKenzie King, while the broad minded and openly expounded appeal of Hon. Mr. Meighen, for a higher and nobler spirit of national unity, has touched their sympathies with corresponding profers of their approval and support.

We scarcely know whether to be

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

Furnished by W. H. Leussen.

NINE REASONS FOR GOING TO CHURCH

- 1. In this actual world, a churchless community, a community where men have abandoned and scoffed at or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid downward grade.
2. Church work and church attendance means the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others.
3. There are enough holidays for most of us: Sundays differ from other holidays in the fact that there are 52 of them every year—therefore on Sundays go to church.
4. Yes, I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator in a grove of trees or by a running brook or in a man's own house just as well as in a church. But I also know as a matter of cold fact that the average man does not thus worship.
5. He may not hear a good sermon at Church. He will hear a sermon by a good man who, with his wife, is engaged all week in making hard lives a little easier.
6. He will listen to and take part in reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. And if he is not familiar with the Bible he has suffered a loss.
7. He will take part in singing some good hymns.
8. He will meet and nod or speak to good quiet neighbors. He will come away feeling a little more charitably toward all the world, even toward those excessively foolish young men who regard church-going as a soft performance.
9. I advocate a man's joining in church work for the sake of showing his faith by his works.
Theodore Roosevelt.

GO TO CHURCH SUNDAY!

grateful or indifferent to the compliments so frequently extended to the Guardian by the Hon. Mr. Lea, the Patriot and other leading Liberals. It certainly is a distinction to be recognized as the one strong dynamic force which moves the multitude and to contend with which their whole genius is compelled to be brought into exercise. But to be considered as anything but the advisory friend and the mouth-piece of the people we have no particular ambitions. That the major portion of the Hon. gentleman's speeches, both at Cape Traverse and Truro, were devoted to matters discussed in our columns, is surely a tribute to the effectiveness with which we have discharged our duty to the public. And in that they have absolutely failed to discount the representations we have made, or shown that we have been even unreasonable in our claims, they have given us a certificate for moderation and accuracy, which does not usually fall to the lot of a party advocate.

It was an apt rejoinder, made by Mr. J. H. Myers, to the Hon. Mr. Lea's boastings over the imaginary excellences of the sliding scale Income Tax. It was the common truism of commerce that this taxing of the big industry ultimately reverted back upon the working man. Take for instance the firm of Bruce Stewart & Co., forcing the Company to pay the Poll Tax of their employees and then deducting it from the weeks pay. In order to pay the most reasonable dividend to its stockholders, and reserve a proper amount for depreciation of plant, the company's gross income must needs amount to \$20,000. Upon this the sliding scale imposes an income tax of ten per cent. Who pays it? Not the wealthy, of a certainty, but in every case the poor shareholder or the employee from whose wages it is deducted, like the Poll tax, as an overhead charge or expense.

Likewise in the case of fox companies, the shares of which are held by widows and orphans, farmers, mechanics and tradesmen of every description, many of them with the last dollar of their savings invested, these are fleeced at his ten per cent rate. Men of individual wealth, who will be reached by the extremes of this sliding scale, are very few, if any in this province, and this extreme rate is 'heretofore almost' solely applicable to companies. These companies represent the earnings and savings of the poorer classes and people of moderate means, who thus out of their poverty become the highest taxed of any in the land. And it is even more drastic and unfairly severe upon these people when this if the Company has an adverse business year, as instanced by many of the fox companies, if there is not income enough to pay the running expenses for the year, THE GOVERNMENT MUST STILL HAVE THEIR TAXES, assessed upon the personal property of the concern, and to be paid by a call upon the shareholders, no matter how poor they may be, or by selling the assets of the Company.

Another most excellent point made by Mr. Myers, unfortunately lost sight of by Mr. Bell and his colleagues, and the real foundation of the Government's offending, he expressed thus: "Now gentlemen, I care not what a man's calling may be, whether he be politician or professional man, he MUST HAVE HONOR AND HONESTY AND TELL THE TRUTH." What a bed of roses it would have been for the Liberal party if they would only have observed this wisdom. They would not now be stizzing and roasting upon the grid-iron of an indignant public opinion. True they would not have been enjoying their increased salaries and indemnities, and would still have to do their carping, and carry on their obstruction of public business from the opposition side of the House. But they would not be sailing under the clouds of shame and disgrace which overshadows them today, and they could still amuse themselves as of old, building air castles and painting phantoms pictures, but doing no harm to the country whose business would have continued to prosper under the direction of men who understood what truth and honor meant, and who were capable of grasping public questions as the Conservative party has always done.

A man seldom wears his trousers out at the knee praying for work. A man is seldom disappointed in love until he gets married. The bashful lover is always in hot water while trying to break the ice. If a man fails to get what he deserves he ought to be thankful.

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HAPPENINGS OF THE WEEK

The big public event of the week was the gathering of the Clans on Wednesday afternoon. The sports, horse races, and the dancing were enthusiastically cheered by hundreds of visitors from all over the Province. It was generally voted one of the best Scottish Gatherings ever held here. The pipers added not a little to the enjoyment.

Mr. and Mrs. David Laird and family who have spent a truly delightful summer here, are leaving this morning on return to Winnipeg much to the regret of relatives and friends.

It was with genuine regret that farewells were said to Col. Campbell, who left yesterday morning for White, Sask., where a splendid position awaits him. Mr. Campbell and family will remain in the city for the winter months. As a mark of esteem Col. Campbell was presented by his friends on Thursday evening with a magnificent club bag and watch guard, both gifts being much appreciated.

Among the recent arrivals at Kennedy's Hotel, St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea, were Mr. and Mrs. W. A. O. Morson, who are annual visitors to the famous summer resort. They expect to return home next week.

Archbishop and Mrs. Worrall who have been in England for the past few months, the Archbishop attending the Lambeth Conference, sailed for home on the twenty-sixth.

Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Pomeroy and Master George Auld who have been on a three months European tour were to sail from England for home on Thursday of this week.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Millers' many friends are glad to know that their little son, who had his leg broken by falling several weeks ago, was able to be taken home this week and is gradually regaining his strength.

Mrs. Williams of Fredericton, N. B., who is the guest of the Misses Earle, is being very pleasantly entertained by her many friends here.

Miss Berna Huestis is visiting in St. John, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Sinclair.

Rev. Herbert Haslam who recently returned from India has arrived from Toronto on a visit to his mother, Mrs. Haslam, Stone Cottage, Springfield.

Miss Olive Ings is being cordially welcomed to the city, where she is being pleasantly entertained by numerous friends.

Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Spencer who came over for the reopening of the Prince Edward returned Tuesday morning to St. John.

Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, the eminent lecturer and economist, has returned to Victoria, B.C., after an extensive Chautauqua tour of the West and is staying for the present at the James Bay Hotel. She is accompanied by her three little adopted daughters who have just come out from England to join her, and they expect to remain in Victoria for some time.

Miss Katie Stanley is visiting in Montague the guest of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Thompson.

Major A. A. Bartlett, Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Cast and young son, have returned from a delightful summer's outing at the Cox Hotel, Souris.

Among the visitors being welcomed at present is Miss Donkin of Montreal who has a wide circle of friends here. Miss Donkin, since her last visit has been on military duty.

The reason a golfer likes his quiet is because he has learned his game while chasing over lonely meadows hour after hour.

Extra Values in Men's Pants \$3.50 and \$5.50 We have left 50 pairs of each at these special prices. All sizes, better get a pair today.

School Boys' Sweaters And Bloomers Parents will find our stock of Boys Suits, Sweaters and extra Bloomers the best yet, a splendid school suit is our sweater and bloomer suit at \$6.00.

Ladies' Kid Gloves Slightly Damaged \$4.00 for \$1.98 These kid gloves got slightly damaged. In order to clean them out at once the price has been reduced to \$1.98. All sizes, tan and black.

Ladies' Silk Hose 49c These are mill seconds excepting for a slight damage. They are worth from \$2.00 to \$3.00 per pair, black and white only. All sizes.

Ladies' Suits \$45.00 for \$22.50 \$35, for \$17.50, \$30 for \$15.00 Only 18 left in the lot, they go on sale today at exactly half price in tweeds and serges. This is a great snap.

S. A. McDONALD

THE PUBLIC FORUM

This column is open for the discussion by correspondents of questions of interest. The Charlottetown Guardian does not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by its correspondents.

The Salary Grab

Sir,—By the heading to this letter I mean the increased indemnity to members of the Legislature, which they "raised" at the last session from \$200 to \$500 without mandate or leave of the people and as they will know against the people's wish. I do not think the representatives to the three heads of departments too high if they attend to their official duties, as they seem disposed to do. This is not a party matter at all for both parties are "tarred with the same stick." They conspired together to do it, the more of the pity and the shame of it. The one gleam of decency in the transaction was the refusal of Mr. Arsenault to accept the offered bribe of \$1,000 as leader of the opposition and the dissent of Mr. Brodie. Hon. Mr. Lea, who possesses considerable energy and capability as a departmental head, has expressed in his Truro speech some regret as to the time and manner of the grab. Let us give him due credit for this. He and the others have the cash in their pockets. But I must dissent from the principle he laid down in the same speech that with an indemnity of \$200 we must get only \$200 men.

It is now 147 years since our legislature was created. In all those years the members served for \$200 or less. To go no further back let us recall that Coles, Whelan, Pope, Laird, Brecken, Davies, Sullivan, Blake, Mackenzie, Matheson and many others of the ablest of our island stock served in the Legislature for \$200 or less. The members of the British Parliament, mother of Parliaments and greatest of them all, served the nation for six hundred years without pay. For a few years past they have been paid £400 but this only because the common people demanded it in order to enable gifted and capable poor men to sit and legislate. Were the great statesmen of those centuries worth nothing to their country because they were paid nothing?

The members of the first Canadian Parliament, in some respects the greatest we have had, served on an indemnity of \$600. Macdonald, Carter, Blake, Mackenzie, Holton, Dolron, Tupper, Howe, Tilley, Smith, Anglin, Pope, Laird and many more of Canada's greatest men at that time were paid only 600 indemnity—just \$100 more than our local members pay themselves, without leave or license from the people and as they well know,

THE PUBLIC FORUM

against the will of the people. True, states of New York and Pennsylvania, where the population in each state exceeds that of the entire Dominion of Canada. The essence of the whole record is this, that taking into consideration the system of one session in two years, the time limit for the length of sessions, and the rate of pay per diem, the average pay of the members of 47 states is \$150 per annum. Such, down to 1913 was the example of our neighbors across the border. And I think the facts cannot be made too widely known. It is in the light of the above stated facts that I regret the action of our local members. They hold annual sessions and their legislatures for only 95,000 people. Their sessions, quite necessarily prolonged in many cases, have hitherto averaged about 45 weeks each, with two days out of each week to visit their homes and direct their personal affairs. The old indemnity of \$200 gave them about \$8 per diem for the 25 days of actual attendance. The grab gives them about \$20 for each legislative day's work in legislation. In my humble judgment one of the worst features in the transaction is that it smirches and tarnishes the fair fame of one of the oldest and most honorable of the legislatures of British America, that it substitutes mere money for honor, fame and public duty; that it shows contempt for the high public standards of the past and a corrupt and debasing example before all our people. If that is the worst feature of it that is in itself power to grab, should be followed in the future by rich and poor, employers and employed, what must be the effect upon our political, social and industrial life? Think it over. I am Sir, etc. NON-PARTISAN

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