

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THE CLOSING SESSION.

It is expected that parliament will prorogue on Saturday. The session has been a particularly strenuous one entailing continuous and laborious work. It has been in every way a satisfactory one to the government. There were several divisions and in every case the government was sustained by a substantial majority. It has been quite apparent throughout the session that the weakness of the opposition lies not only in the serious position lies not only in the lack of debating strength but in the much more serious lack of a definite and clearly defined policy. In the matter of policy they are adrift and are fighting aimlessly and for the sake of opposition. The union of Liberalism and Agrarianism has been a union in name only, the union of oil and water as, outside of their opposition to the government they have little if anything in common. The trade policy of the government, the policy of maintaining the protective principle in the tariff has not been successfully assailed nor can it be. Our trade relations with the United States during the past few years alone have set the seal of finality on the tariff question. Our adverse trade balance with that country has emphasized one plain and incontrovertible fact, namely, that any policy which will tend to increase our purchases from across the border is one that Canada must avoid. The avowed policy of the MacKenzie King Liberals, a general revision downward of the tariff and a tariff for revenue only, is one that neither they, if returned to power nor the people of Canada under any government would stand for. Canada's great need is the development of its industries, the building up of its industrial centres and the development through these of its home markets. The downward revision of the tariff and the so-called free trade policy of the Liberal party, would mean the end of industrial development in this country and a new exodus of Canadians to the United States or elsewhere. Canadians know this and will stand by the trade policy which has brought us so successfully thus far on our way to nationhood. They know also the insincerity of the free trade slogan. The Canadian tariff is today lower than it was during the last Liberal regime although that party came into power on a tariff for revenue only policy.

A LITTLE LEARNING.

"A little learning is a dangerous thing," says an old proverb. It is only dangerous however when it goes beyond its depth, when it undertakes something outside of its limitations. Many good people of very little learning have gone through life with a reputation for wisdom and prudence while their only claim to these was that they did not undertake anything that they knew nothing about. Everyone knows Henry Ford, the maker of the immortal Ford car, or knows of him. As a maker of motors and motor cars, he has won a reputation such as few inventors or mechanics in the world have attained to. In this special line he has given valuable pointers to the world. On two occasions he went beyond the Ford car limitations and became the laughing stock of two continents, once when his "peace ship" sailed for Europe to stop the war and to "bring the boys home before Christmas," again, when giving testimony in court, he declared that history was humbug and that he did not bother his head about it. He knew all that was worth knowing about building engines and cars; he knew nothing about international politics or history and when he essayed to tell the world about these he failed egregiously. This is essentially an age of specialization and while specialization has a tendency to narrow and contract the mind it is nevertheless necessary. The day of the "jack of all trades" is gone forever and today a man must be master of his calling be it trade or profession. In our own province we have had our farmer-fishermen and neither the farming nor the fishing paid. Those who have abandoned the one and devoted all their energies to the other have succeeded. This is equally true of other callings and of the professions. The master of his craft must know his craft and if for the sake of variety he takes an excursion into other crafts it must only be an excursion; his main business is in his own calling. It is true there are flowers to be gathered along every roadside and in every field, flowers of literature, of science, of biology, of innumerable phenomena about us and around us. The specialist will do well to cull of these or some of them. They will broaden his mind and strengthen it for his own particular calling.

Current Comment

The proposed amendment to the Civil Service Act, a return to the old patronage system some call it, is causing some ripples in the political waters at Ottawa, and incidentally throughout Canada. It is a feature in public policy in which mysterious accord with the particular position which they occupy. When the vote was taken referring these amendments to a committee of the House, the whole Liberal phalanx voted solidly against it, and yet there is no party in the country more determined than they are against the present system. When Sir Robert Borden introduced the legislation to abolish patronage, it was only permitted to become law by Liberal grace or consent with Sir Wilfrid Laurier's special reservation of the right to pursue whatever course he might choose, when he came into power. There were of course a large number of his own friends, whom he had placed in office, and whom he was not anxious to have discharged, but later on when the time came for him to take up the reins of government again, there would no doubt be a lot of Tories in public positions, whom he would wish to remove for the benefit of his followers, and hence this special reservation. But while Mackenzie King and his party have the programme up their sleeves of returning absolutely to the patronage system, if they ever reach to official eminence, they are not so much in relish with a present application of the principle, for in it they can see the ghosts of danger to themselves in the day of election contests, now not too far distant. And so, while condemning the present management of the Civil Service Act for all they are worth, they oppose its abandonment tooth and nail, to the very utmost of their strength. In short they want this political cudgel for themselves and are determined to have it, if they ever return to power, but they are equally determined that, if they can stop it that their opponents will not find it a source of party profit. Experience in all leading centres has demonstrated a decided lack of interest in election campaigns and a corresponding falling off in activity since this political innovation was made. Even Sir George Foster, the strongest opponent of patronage, which he described as "hell," has admitted that the Toronto committee rooms, in last election, were "as empty as a cuckoo's nest."

Patronage so called has its evils as well as its advantages, but on the whole we believe the virtues of the system abundantly outweighs the vices. In the highest standards of sacred life the principle of reward is offered for every service. There is no call in the Divine Theology which does not

Charlottetown 150 Years Ago

BY HENRY SMITH

(Continued)

The following copy of a return of the inhabitants of Charlottetown who were required to perform Statute Labour on the streets for the year 1797 gives the names of all the householders in the town, the number of hours of Statute Labour to be performed and the amount of fines paid in lieu of work done.

Table with columns: Name, Hours Performed, Fines Paid, Fines Due. Includes names like Philip Callbeck, Thomas Wright, Thomas Desbrisey, etc.

Account of Public money laid out on the Highway

Table with columns: Date, Description, Amount. Includes entries for Nov. 5, Dec 2, etc.

Daily Selections Guardian Readers

The Souls of the Flowers. Where do the souls of the flowers go When the flowers are faded and dead? They enter our hearts and become those thoughts Which beauty and sweetness shed. The Pansy's soul is that tender thought For others who may be weak To bring them hope and to give them love. Which often they vainly seek. The strong true soul of the noble rose Is the thought of the splendid few. Who make this world a better place. Because of the work they do. The Carnation's soul is the loving thought Of tender, patient care, Which enters into a mother's heart And lingers always there. The pure, sweet soul of the Violet small Is the dear remembered thought, Of a mother's love and another's smile. Which never in vain we sought. The soul of the blue Forge-me-not Is the thought of a faithful friend, Who cheers us on if our feet would fall Before the journey's end. So though the bloom and the flowers fade And their fragrance we miss awhile Their souls live on in our sweetest thoughts, And bloom in our brightest smile.

The Coming Census

WHY IT IS TAKEN. HOW IT IS TAKEN

Prepared by the Dominion Statistician with the authority of the Rt. Hon. the Minister of Trade and Commerce.

INTRODUCTION

On June 1, 1921, the Census of the Dominion will be taken. The Census has been called "the largest single act of administration of the Government." In reference partly to its physical extent—the census organization covering every section of the country for a complex and many-sided task—and also to the great importance of census results in the general machinery of Government. The success of the Census depends largely upon the co-operation of the people. Without general appreciation of the ends in view, and without the cordial assistance of individual citizens towards those ends, a good census will be impossible. A brief description of the scope, methods and purpose of the census and of its place in statistical and general administration will therefore be of interest and utility at the present moment.

HISTORICAL

Census-taking dates from the dawn of civilization. Moses numbered the Children of Israel in the fifteenth century B. C., (Exodus XXX, 12-15; Numbers 1 24 and 47-49; III, 14-16; IV, 34-98.) But statistical investigations were known many centuries earlier, in Babylonia, (4,000 B. C.) in China (3,000 B. C.) in Egypt (2,500 B. C.) A census taken by King David in 1017 B. C. achieved evil notoriety in history from the Divine

four pence. This would be twenty-eight pounds, five shillings and four pence, and the amount paid in lieu of work with the unpaid sum of ten pounds, makes the total assessment for Charlottetown for the year 1797, forty-two pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence, or \$140.00. Who will not say the former days were better than the present? Then, when we consider the expenditure of fourteen shillings by the assessors for rum "to four men at different times during the day, and old manners gone," "ing two days," surely "Old times on my hands."

For the better security of the Colony in those early days or wars and rumours of war, the Legislature at its sitting in 1800 passed an Act requiring all male persons between the ages of sixteen and sixty, residing in this Island, to bear arms and attend muster and military exercises in the companies in which they should be enrolled. This Act also provided that any alarm given in case of an invasion should be made by setting fire or lighting a beacon at the summit of the hill on Queen Street, in Charlottetown, and by firing two guns at Patterson's Battery and also two guns at Tartar's Wharf and all officers and soldiers and other persons able to bear arms should appear complete with their arms and ammunition according to the directions of the Act.

This Act may still be found in Vol. I of the Revised Statutes of this Province and the summit of the hill on Queen Street (at the Canadian Bank corner) remains intact, but it might be difficult to find Patterson's Battery or Tartar's Wharf, which were the principal military stations, one hundred and fifty years ago. The first Public Buildings of any kind erected in Charlottetown were the Episcopal Church and the Military Barracks. In a speech in the House of Assembly in 1790, Governor Fanning said: "Since the last meeting of the General Assembly I have purchased a house belonging to Captain Burns, a part of which I have appropriated as a Chapel for the performance of public Divine Service during the time my Most Gracious Sovereign shall be pleased to continue me in the Government of this Island, whereby there will be a saving of ten pounds a year to the public which has heretofore been annually paid for the hire of a room for a church."

The Episcopal Church was built on the western end of Queen Square and described as "all that part of Queen Square lying west of Great George Street," Great George Street at that time ran through the centre of the Square, and all the western half was set apart for Church purposes. It was however, afterwards exchanged and part of the eastern half of the Square, which was originally intended for a jail, was taken for the Episcopal Church.

It may not be generally known that the credit of taking the first census of modern times belongs to Canada. The year was 1666; the census was one of the Colony of New France. There had been earlier records of settlement at Port Royal (1605) and Quebec (1608), but the census of 1666 was a systematic "normal" enumeration of the people, (i. e., a record of each individual by name), taken for a fixed date, showing the age, sex, place of residence, occupation and conjugal condition of each person. The results are to be seen in document of 154 pages in the Archives of Paris, of which a transcript is in Ottawa. Altogether this Census recorded 3,215 souls. When it is recalled that in Europe the first modern Census dated only from the eighteenth century (those of France and England dating from the first year of the nineteenth), whilst in the United States no Census was taken before 1790, the achievement of the primitive St. Lawrence Colony in instituting what is today one of the principal instruments of Government in every civilized community may call for more than passing appreciation. This initial Canadian Census was repeated several times during the French regime, after which a series of less elaborate investigations by successive Colonial Governors took its place. The first legislation on the subject was an Act of the United Provinces, dated 1847. Under it a census of Upper and Lower Canada was taken in 1851 and again in 1861. Censuses of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick were taken in the same years. An account of these and of preceding investigations may be found in Volume IV of the Report of the Census of 1871, a volume designed to start the new Dominion on its career with a review of all previous statistics relating to its domain. At Confederation the British North America Act specifically mentioned "the Census and statistics" as falling within Dominion jurisdiction (Section 91). The first Dominion Census Act was passed in 1870 and the first census was taken thereunder in 1871. Similar comprehensive censuses have followed every tenth year, namely, 1881, 1891, 1901 and 1911. In 1886, a special census of Manitoba and the Northwest Territories was taken midway between the other censuses. This so-called "Quinquennial" census was repeated for Manitoba in 1896, whilst in 1906 and 1916 it also embraced Saskatchewan and Alberta, created into provinces in 1905, the reason being the rapidly changing conditions in these newer sections of the Dominion.

wrath which it provoked (II Samuel XXIV, 1-25; I Chronicles XXI 1-27) and which was cited for many generations against the spirit of inquiry: The Census was one of the institutions founded by the great lawgiver Solon at Athens in the sixth century, B. C. The Romans were assiduous census takers both under the Republic and the Empire: Julius Caesar reformed the census among other things. The Breviary of Charlemagne (A. D. 808) and the Domesday Book of William the Conqueror (A. D. 1086) are celebrated mediaeval censuses. Later, the census disappeared from Europe.

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The Census of June 1, 1921 is

THE OLD GARDENER SAYS: Flea beetles are arachnid insects which usually show up at this season to be followed soon after by the iniquitous striped beetle. Both are bad pests, and work havoc with the melons, squashes and cucumbers. It will help to dust the plants with ashes or soot but the safest plan is to cover them with small boxes across the top of which fly netting has been tacked. If these boxes are pressed into the soil they will give complete immunity until the plants outgrow them. Protection must be given promptly for the crops are often ruined over night.

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