THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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ANOTHER WARNING

According to our local contemporary, the people of this Province, by electing thirty Liberals, "have now what is truly a National Government."

Here is what our contemporary's federal leader, Mr. Mackenzie King, thinks about this result. We quote from his broadcast of last Thursday: "Rightly understood, I believe National Government to be but another form of dictatorship, the most subtle of all, perhaps, because its name and its pretensions are so plausible. I do not doubt the sincerity of many of those who are its advocates, but, with all due respect to those who are now advocating it, as undoubtedly some are, from ulterior motives, I do doubt their understanding of government, and of the value of freedom of discussion, of argument, and reason, and persuasion, as being of the very essence of our parliamentary system."

PASSAGE TO AFRICA

More cheering news during the past few days indicates that the East African situation may yet be ironed out without bloodshed—a consummation devoutly to be wished. Mussolini's attitude, however, is still belligerent and he apparently has behind him the Italian people. Britain has been fighting strenuously for peace, and there is no question but that world opinion generally is behind every effort made to maintain the independence of Ethiopia.

One solution to any aggressive action on the part of Italy must have impressed itself on every student of geography. That is the closing of the Suez Canal. On the board of management of the Canal there are one Dutch, ten British and twenty French directors; and it would seem an easy matter for France and Great Britain to reach an agreemeent by which this vital sea route to Ethiopia could be closed to Italian shipping in the event of Italy taking the offensive. Mussolini's forces would then have to round the Cape of Good Hope and the whole African continent to reach Ethiopia. His ships would then have to pass through the narrow passage separating the Gulf of Aden from the Red Sea, where a few submarines could effectively block their entrance.

This in effect is the suggestion made by a writer in a mainland exchange, and a glance at the map would seem to clinch the matter. With France and Britain in agreement for peace, Italy's prospect of waging war on Ethiopia would seem to be hopeless. But there is a "catch" to this easy solution. By an agreement reached at Constantinople in 1888, Great Britain, Germany, Austria, Spain, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Russia and Turkey signed the Suez Canal Convention, the purpose of which was to insure that the Canal should "always be free and open, in time of war as in time of peace, to every vessel of commerce or of war, without distinction of flag." By the Anglo-France agreement of April 8, 1904, Great Briatin declared her adherence to the stipulations of the convention, and agreed to their being put in force, except as regards a provision by which the agents in Egypt of the signatory Powers of the convention were to meet once a year to take note of the due execution of the treaty. It was by virtue of this new agreement that the Russian warships proceeding to the East in 1904-5 were enabled to use the Canal, although passage was prohibited to Spanish warships in 1898 during the war between Spain and the United States. Subsequently, during the World War, the Suez Canal became the strategical frontier of Egypt, guarded by the armies and navies of France and of the British Empire. Its waterway was open to the ships of Allied and neutral powers for the whole of those four eventful years, except during a few hours of fighting on Feb. 3, 1915, when a Turkish Army that had marched across the desert from Damascus to invade Egypt was routed, never to return.

Though French interests are largely in control of the Canal, the French Government owns no shares in the enterprise. Its status as an international waterway remains. There is, however, an article in the League of Nations Covenant which covers the matter. It lays down that when any member refusing to arbitrate, makes war, it thereby is deemed to have committed an act of war against the League, and League members may sever all trade or financial relations and prevent all financial, commercial or personal intercourse between the covenant-breaking state and all other nations. So that if Italy in defiance of her obligations went to war, and the League gave the word, the canal could be closed.

A GOOD PRECEDENT?

A writer in the Vancouver Province thus comments on the provincial political situation:

"The suggestion that at least one member of the victorious Liberal super-flux in the Prince Edward Island Legislature shall be appointed as the official opposition is not so simple of settlement as it looks. The custom in the sporting world, where you are able to lend a man to the opposing team if they are short, might not be so good in politics.

"In the first place, what would you call the man? His Majesty's loyal opposition is the general term used for oppositions, but if he were on the same side as the government you would have to call him His Majesty's disloyal opposition—and that would leave him open to arrest and other disgraceful and unpleasant things.

"Mr. Lea contends that he doesn't want an opposition and that all criticism of proposed legislation can very well come from government benches. But that would be terrible. They would all go to sleep and the state would be demoralized.

"There is, however, a good precedent for Mr. Lea's notion as we have found here. No less a figure than that of the Mayor of Vancouver (Hon. G. G. McGeer), sitting as member for Burrard in the Victoria Assembly, has shown clearly that a man may be elected upon a Liberal platform and become in the House practically a one-man opposition to every act of his party while he still remains within its fold for purposes of any argument that may come up in connection with his other offices."

EDITORIAL NOTES

Tomorrow suits morning church and afternoon seabathing.

Premier MacMillan has taken a well-earned vacation before settling Provincial affairs preliminary to handing over to his successor.

The life of a Dictator is just one trouble after another. Whenever he thinks he is set—then somebody discovers a new diabolical plot in the hatching.

Hon. Walter Lea has not clerical assistance enough to reply personally to all those offering him felicitations. What like can conditions be regarding those applying for jobs?

When in Montreal beware of measles which is epidemic there. During the first six months of the year, 7,879 cases were reported against 3,185 cases in the corresponding period last year.

Mr. Hessian, K.C., evidently has been reminding the Liberal organ of his existence and the things he has accomplished; it is too bad that a prospective Attorney-General should find it necessary to do this.

Wives and daughters of prairie farmers are rallying to help in the harvest fields this year, although in general they have all they can do to prepare meals for the male workers in the busy season. Hence, no doubt, male unemployment, or is it the other way round?

As is customary, Lord Bessborough will sail from Quebec in time to pass the steamer of the incoming Governor-General at sea. It is the intention to have Lord Tweedsmuir installed before the Federal election, so he may be here between the fifth and tenth of September.

It was well-known that the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King was tight-fisted in connection with the distribution of even "Five Cent pieces" to Tory Provinces, but it was left to the local Liberal organ to designate him the "Tight" Hon. Mackenzie King. Many a true word is spoken in jest.

Mr. King mentions a "balanced budget", but does not promise it. He says that "the aim of every government should be the balancing of its budget," and that the Liberal party is no exception to the rule. All he promises, however, is "retrenchment of expenditure, the reduction of principal and interest of public debt, by a reduction of taxation and by increased values through the encouragement of trade." These be fine words, but strictly words.

"Mich" Hepburn like "Wal" Lea promised to balance the budget. Now he is cutting off unemployment relief "to prevent the province going bankrupt." Meantime his ministers are picnicing in London and the "contingnong." Its a way demagogues have. In office serve self first.

In his second campaign speech, Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King reproduces his party programme of 1933 which most people, including Liberal politicians themselves, had forgotten. The general election at that time was expected to be held in 1934, and as it wasn't the platform was consigned to limbo only to be rescued and revivified now at the eleventh hour.

There are already 234 candidates in the field seeking election to fill the sixty-three seats in the Alberta Legislature. By nomination day it is expected that there will be at least four candidates in each riding, with as many as six in some! These include United Farmers, Conservatives, Liberals, Social Credit representatives of two brands, Communists and Socialists, Laborites and Independents. Probably never before in the history of Canadian politics has there been such a variety of aspirants for office.

Here is a tip for Hon. Mr. Lea from France. In an heroic endeavour to balance his budget Premier Laval has decided to reduce government expenditure by $750,000,000, and intends doing so by outs ranging from 10 per cent. downwards in the pensions of ex-servicemen, exrallway men, ex-civil servants; similar reductions in all civil service salaries; a reduction of interest in government bonds, loans and other securities, together with increased taxation on incomes. This is to be offset in some measure by compulsory reductions in the price of bread, gas, electricity and other commodities. The Prime Minister is acting under general authority conferred on him by the legislature which is not in session. If it were, it would probably have refused its sanction to some of the cuts and taxes.

Reviewing the wheat situation by Provinces, the Monthly Review of the Bank of Nova Scotia says it appears that prospects are excellent in Manitoba, favourable in Saskatchewan and only fair in Alberta. The Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports that crop conditions in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, as at June 30th, were 103 per cent. and 97 per cent. of the long-term averages, respectively; in each case the condition figure is the highest since the corresponding date in 1928, and over 20 per cent. better than at June 30th, 1934. The outstanding feature of this improvement is, of course, the restoration of soil moisture in many of the dried-out districts, particularly in south-western Manitoba and south-eastern Saskatchewan. South-western Saskatchewan is the unfortunate exception, for there prospects are poor. In Alberta, the condition was reported as 93 per cent. of normal at June 30th. Although the season opened favourably in this Province, the crop has deteriorated in the south owing to lack of rain. Harvesting will probably begin from one to two weeks later than usual. The danger of frost is thus very real, particularly in the north. Rust, too, may injure the growing grain; it has recently appeared in southern Manitoba.

The Japanese Datsun car, at $570, is making steady progress in Japan, and its popularity is increasing for taxi purposes because of its low running costs. It is said to run 50 miles on a gallon of gasoline and to attain a speed of 45 miles an hour. Competition on foreign markets may be rendered possible because of the comparatively low cost of production in Japan and the advantages of a depreciated exchange, but the Japanese product of standard make cannot yet compete with the Chevrolet and Ford manufactured under mass production methods, even on the Japanese market. The products of Ford and General Motors are said to constitute a combined ratio of 85 per cent. of all automobiles in Japan. The domestic output of complete cars has barely passed 1,500 a year. Further, the purely Japanese output of motor cars has never been on a sound commercial basis, but under heavy government subsidy or at high prices paid by the army and navy or other government agencies. Most of the trucks and buses manufactured locally are being used by the army, the national railways, and the municipalities, and it may take some time before general commercial and industrial enterprises will turn to them in preference to foreign makes, says the Commercial Intelligence Journal

Notes By The Way

Many of my readers will doubtless be surprised to learn that the use of cut in the sense of reduction is a neologism imported from the United States during the fourth decade of the present century. As late as 1929 it was not yet recognised in the "Concise Oxford Dictionary"—it appears, of course, in the 1934 edition of that work—although, as examples in my M.S. notes prove, it was commonly so used in America as long ago as 1904 at least. Its general use in England dates from the financial and economic crisis of 1931. It had begun to creep into the headlines a few years before, being found in newspaper offices to be much easier than reduction to manipulate in a small space. During the discussions in Parliament and the Press, of the Budget of September, 1931, public speakers and leader-writers, who had occasion to refer again and again in a speech or article to the reductions in the unemployment allowances, etc., came to appreciate the convenience of the shorter word.—H. W. Howill, quoted in Public Opinion (London.)

American church congregations are to observe a day of prayer on Sunday, Aug. 18. This will be in conjunction with a protest against subjugation of Ethiopia, called the oldest Christian nation in the world, by Italy. Petitions asking the U.S. Government to offer to mediate will be circulated among millions of citizens for signatures. Back of both moves is recognition that peace in general is seriously threatened. It is the force of the churches and of all good citizens that is being marshaled. Diplomacy and political agencies suddenly appear to be achieving nothing definite. Treaty obligations are deliberately ignored—Can the spiritual power of America rally itself in a gesture that will be felt across the seas ——Christian Science Monitor.

Indians of nine bands, veterans of the old Northwest Mounted Police, militia and scouts have just completed their celebration of fifty years of peace since the rebellion of 1885. The ceremonies were staged at Battleford, not far from Poundmaker's reserve. The bitterness of those stirring days of trouble has long since been forgotten, and the red men and the palefaces nowadays smoke the pipe of peace. Its friendly glow promises to continue perpetually.—Ex.

The rising complaint against the mounting cost of food begins to assume militant form. Recently a dozen housewives, representing organizations in New York and Chicago, visited Washington to register a protest with the Department of Agriculture. These women threatened that unless their plea was heeded they would organize a national boycott, particularly against the use of meat. They suggested that the strike might begin with the establishment of a meatless Thursday, such as was observed during the World War.—Manchester Union.

Count among the men who qualify for good citizenship Mr. James V. Tuplin, of Prince Edward Island. Mr. Tuplin went sailing on the St. Charles River in Massachusetts aboard his private yacht. A wild duck was an early morning visitor daily, and laid several eggs in a coil of rope on the deck. Knowing that a person could be fined $1,000 for disturbing a wild bird's eggs, Mr. Tuplin sought a solution from the state o cials, for he wanted to continue his cruise. The authorities removed the eggs to an incubator to hatch, and the Canadian sportsman soon will sail homeward with a clear conscience.—Windsor Star.

Who can say, contemplating the career of Huey Long, that he has not proved himself adept at manipulating the materials of the current economic and political situation The crowd, the vast American crowd, with its literate moronism, its simple faiths, its primitive greeds, its latent fears and hatreds, its worship of success, of the thing done, no matter what or how; the dilemma of big business, facing the accelerating anarchic chaos of its obsolete institutions, legalities, and processes—needing more and more urgently someone to pour the strong liquor of demagoguery that will keep the crowd still hoping but still fooled and frustrated. And now behold the man, Huey P. Long, Jr., born with hatred in his bones and spurred by the fear which is hatred's other face; Huey Long, the man of many voices, the lawyer among lawyers, the hillbilly among hillbillies, the businessman among businessmen, above all, the politician among politicians, wanting power as a normal man wants bread, brutal in victory, crafty and dangerous in defeat.—James Rorty in The Forum (New York.)

It is becoming more apparent every month that one of the chief reasons for the failure of the Federal authorities and different Provincial governments to work more in harmony in the handling of relief and in providing employment is the difference in political outlooks. This is particularly evident in the cases of Ontario, British Columbia and Saskatchewan, where newly elected Liberal governments have made little effort to conceal their hostility to the Bennett administration. In many quarters it is being suggested that they are doing their utmost to embarrass the latter government on the eve of a Federal election.—Calgary Herald.

While France is fussing with a conciliation and juggling with words the British attitude is plainly in favor of full application of the League covenant. Recent utterances from Washington and Japan's open disapproval of Italy's course make a firm stand easier. It is expected that Denmark and Spain will support Great Britain in the council, and probably Turkey and Russia also. France is inclined to wring her hands and seek concessions for Italy. Czechoslovakia is still sufficiently under French control to support her. South America, with Gran Chaco in mind, is not at present enthusiastic for the League's authority.—Ex

That Body of Yours

By James W. Barton, M.D.

A VACATION RELAXES BODY AND BRAIN AND INDUCES SLEEP

A business man weighed 180 pounds which was about thirty pounds above what he considered his normal weight.

He had some extra responsibilities placed upon him and at the end of a month he found he had lost ten pounds. This didn't bother him much because he was overweight anyway.

At the end of the second month he found he had lost another ten pounds and wasn't feeling very good. When at he end of the third month he had lost another ten pounds and only weighed 150 pounds he consulted his physician.

After a careful examination — blood, blood pressure, heart, lungs, kidneys—his physician advised him that there was no organic trouble but that he'd have to go on a month's vacation at once.

The whole secret of his loss of weight was worry and loss of sleep. He not only had worked late at his office but had carried his business home with him and found that he sometimes slept but two or three hours during the night.

By taking the month's vacation he got about 1000 miles away from his office where of course he could not be reached easily. At the end of the month he found that he was sleeping soundly for 6 to 8 hours every night and had an appetite, and an actual desire for food. He returned to his office in splendid shape with a clear head and a rested body.

The big point about sleep is that it removes the tension from the body. If you'll observe anyone sound asleep you'll notice that all the muscles of the body—legs, arms, body, face—are all lax or loose, and this means that the whole body with its hundreds of muscles is at the nearest to complete rest that the human body can attain.

In addition to this rest or relaxation of the muscles the blood flows more slowly, the heart beats less rapidly, the blood pressure is less, and the temperature of the body may be one degree lower than when awake.

As it is the brain working—worry, anxiety, intense thought—that in turn tenses the muscles and stimulates activity of body processes, a vacation which takes the mind away from this worry, anxiety, and intense thought about business is the correct treatment for those who are losing strength and weight through loss of sleep.

The Poet's Corner

A. E.

Now you are gone you seem a visitor,
Something that haunted for a little time
The splendor of the evening, or astir
With bees in blooms of lime.

Or at the hour when mothers tell old tales
To children, something passing through the gleam
Of cottage windows; or on Western gales
Riding, a king of dreams.

Or about hawthorns lingering to greet
The earliest May amongst the blazing green,
Or through the heather travelling to meet
Spirits we have not seen.

A lively radiance of a passing star
Upon sudden journey through the gloaming,
Lighting low Irish hills, and then afar
To its own regions homing.

—Lord Dunsany.

As Others See Him

(J. Lunness Webster in Vancouver Province)

"A lean and taciturn-appearing gentleman from Tryon, P.E.I., replaces W.J. MacMillan as the people's choice in Prince Edward Island. Swept into power on an unbeatable Liberal tide, he will have no opposition in the House which he will call together.

"Premier-elect Walter M. Lea could well sympathize with MacMillan, for only four short years ago his own government was drowned in a sea of adverse votes. He himself, however, breasted the tide and proved his own popularity by by being re-elected. Now, after four years as leader of the opposition, he finds himself in the unique position of having no opposition leader with whom to wrangle.

He is but shortly recovered from an illness which dimmed neither the fire in his dark, heavy-lidded eyes, the bristle of his greying mustache, nor the efficiency of his campaign.

He entered politics in 1915, was re-elected in 1919. In the latter year he was minister of agriculture and provincial treasurer in the cabinet of Premier Bell, but was defeated in 1923. In 1927 he was elected again, and once more acted as minister of agriculture; in 1930 he became Premier but his government dissolved under his feet in 1931, while his own personality gained him the doubtful honor of leading the opposition.

"He has a strong chin, noticeable ears, lined face and likes to look severe and wear soft grey felt hats turned down rakishly in front.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

AN APPEAL TO ELECTORS

Sir,—I have been amused in reading a letter in yesterday's Guardian entitled "An Appeal to Electors".

Evidently the writer is more interested in receiving relief than relelving the government of the obligation to pay out this money. The results of the Provincial elections as well as the by-elections throughout Canada, are sufficient proof of the confidence the electors of Canada have in the R.B. Bennett Administration.

The good citizens of this country are more interested in seeing work supplied to the unemployed, and the surest way to lead the unemployed back to a condition of independence is to support the Mackenzie King party this coming election.

I am Sir, etc.,
HAROUN AL RASCHID

BUDGET BALANCING

Sir,—Reputable rumor says that the "stormy petrel" of the elect has assumed control, and without consent of either the retiring or the incoming government, has placed men to work on the highways, without leader or supervision. The Government won't pay, "but we'll pay when we take charge."

Is this the economy plank to save waste to balance the budget, or a scheme to create a false balance against the retiring Ministry, or the expected break away from election promises, made "only to get in on?" Or is it Hitler rule, over the head of the elected Hitlers?

I am, Sir, etc.,
ELECTOR.

FIGURES WANTED

Sir,—You are not editing the Guardian per the Patriot's dictum. Why this les mejeste to the exalted ruler? It complains of the lack of facts and figures in your election returns. May I fill in some of the deficiencies?

In Queen's County (I have not the federal lists for Prince and Kings) the Liberals have the provincial government per vote of a large minority of the bona fide electors. Let actual figures tell them the sorry tale. Particularly as they are counting their federal chickens by the bogus hatching of local returns.

The total registered vote for the Dominion House in Queen's County is 23,474. The total Liberal vote polled was 11,022. This leaves the amazing number of franchise votes not polled of 12,455, and a Liberal minority of 1,443 of the federal electoral vote.

But this does not tell the whole story. To this minority we must add, the votes of those who came of age since the "Revision Court" closed. Probably 300 more: the duplicate votes of electors voting in one or more electoral districts; at least another 300, and the bogus vote of those carted to the polls, to vote in many instances from one to four times when entitled to only one vote (in some instances not even that), especially in the City, sufficient to make a grand total of 1,000 votes. Thus for federal computation, on the one man one vote basis, the Liberals were 2,443 votes short of a majority of votable electors.

Worse still than this. The total vote cast by both parties in the contest (franchise) was 19,594. Deduct this from the total of the Federal electoral list of 23,479 and we find the unprecedented number of 3,838 registered voters who stayed at home and did not vote. Add to this the 1,000 repeaters and new voters, and the surprising result shows almost 5,000 who, in Old Testament language—"Have not bowed the head to Baal."

Taking the Liberal argument of four years ago, that those who did not vote the winning ticket were opposed to them, we have a party in power, elected by 11,022 votes, with an opposition electorate of at least 13,000 unrepresented in the legislature.

This reasoning, of adding the unpolled votes to the opposition, is more logical today than four years ago, in that Liberals in their mad chase for power combed and scoured the County and raked in every vote that was attainable by hook or by crook in their favor.

I am, Sir, etc.,
TRUTHFUL FIGURES.

Island Politics Discussed

(Halifax Chronicle, Liberal)

Every now and again some newspaper in central Canada undertakes to tell the Maritimes how absurd they are in preserving their different political constitutions and how much more economical it would be if they were to roll all three into one province. If any serious study lay behind it, their opinion might be worthy of respect, but we are far from convinced that such a union would effect any measurable saving at all. For their information it might be said that this was a project under discussion before Confederation came about and that the provinces were in consultation in Charlottetown, when the delegates from "Canada" came knocking at their doors seeking a large union.

It might interest them likewise if they were to ponder the finding of the Duncan Commission, before which the subject was raised. "We feel bound to express the view, that, so far as saving in overhead expenses is concerned, we are not seriously impressed with the argument that any financial saving which would arise could materially affect the present condition of their finances, even if Maritime Union would produce the other advantages which it is alleged would result."

So much for that. We are quite prepared to believe that far greater economies could be effected in the Maritimes, but not any more so than in the central Provinces themselves. The butt just now is Prince Edward Island. "Why," the Windsor, Ontario, Star asks, "should the Island with its population of 89,000, or less than Windsor, have a Provincial Legislature of 30 members, a Premier and a cabinet, a lieutenant governor and staff, and all the other expenditures of a Province?"

Of course, as is well known, it is being argued in many of the provinces that the Chief Justice might equally well represent the King. But what we desire to point out is this, that on the whole of Prince Edward Island, there is not a single municipality, outside the city of Charlottetown, the entire administration being carried on by the legislature, whose members are paid only $400 a year. This is something, which in justice to the Island might well be kept in mind.

(The Chronicle, however forgets that Dr. Yeo, President of the Charlottetown Liberal Association, campaigned for the Liberals on the hope "that the Liberals would lead the way and cut the membership of the Provincial House in two, electing fifteen members instead of thirty." Patriot, July 10.—Ed. G.)

Tommy was asked how old he was on his last birthday.

"I was nine years old." was the reply.

"And how old will you be on your next birthday?" was the next question. What reply should Tommy have given?

Most people will give the answer as ten, but this in incorrect. Eleven is the right answer, as the questions were put to Tommy on his tenth birthday.

'Capitalism is not only not dying in the world; it is perhaps more solidly established than it has ever been for 100 years."

"The Haberdashery"

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