

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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An Astonishing Situation

According to a despatch received last night and published in today's Guardian, this Province was represented in the Supreme Court of Canada last week by Mr. C. L. Moyer, who appeared, along with counsel representing the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, to dispute the claim of the Dominion Government to control radio broadcasting in Canada. It will be recalled that a few days ago, when The Guardian asked why the Lea Government should engage counsel in a case of this kind, which would involve considerable expense and could result in no benefit to the Province, Premier Lea replied that the employment of any counsel in the case was "news" to him; that in fact no such counsel had been engaged. The news item on which The Guardian's comment was based, which appeared in both local newspapers, was repudiated by the Liberal organ as "an imported floating rumor" and the public was given to understand that it contained no truth whatever.

Now the fact is revealed that the counsel representing Prince Edward Island was retained by the Attorney General of this Province.

Is it conceivable that the Attorney General acted on his own initiative, without the knowledge and consent of Premier Lea? This is the only inference that can be drawn from the Premier's emphatic profession of ignorance. Representative government must be abandoned in Prince Edward Island when an individual whose services have been turned down by the people can take it upon himself, without consulting the Premier, to land the Province as a litigant in proceedings which will eventually have to be carried to the House of Lords. In such circumstances it is indeed time that the Government woke up and assumed the duties and responsibilities of its office.

The least that will be expected of Premier Lea is a frank explanation of the ignorance of his Government of the action of the Attorney General in this matter; an explanation which might well be supplemented by an apology from the Liberal organ for its uncalled-for reflections on the veracity of the Canadian Press, and its efforts to frustrate inquiry and mislead its readers.

The Truce With Gandhi

It is well to bear in mind that the agreement reached at New Delhi last week between Lord Irwin, Viceroy of India, and the Mahatma Gandhi, de facto leader of the Indian Nationalists, is not a settlement but merely a truce. It ends the civil disobedience campaign, provides for the liberation of all political prisoners not convicted of actual violence, gives the native population on the sea-shore the right to manufacture their own salt, and terminates the period of martial law that began over a year ago. But it says nothing regarding the question of India's political status, except that the Nationalist Committee will participate in the forthcoming Round Table Conference to be held at New Delhi. And even this reference to India's vital problem has been modified by Gandhi's significant caution that if the Nationalist demands for Indian autonomy in finances and military matters are not granted, the agitation for the country's separation from Britain will be renewed.

But with all allowances and reservations, this truce may be described as the most momentous and hopeful development in India's political history since the close of the war. Its essential significance is that it assures the co-operation of the Nationalists, heretofore uncompromising separatists, in the evolution of a plan for the retention of India in the British Empire with Dominion status. This means that, temporarily at least, all outward political differences have been composed and the country is to have a respite from civil agitation and popular unrest. In the atmosphere so created, there will be

some hope that calm deliberations may result in wise decisions, and that, with the London Round Table Pact as a basis, a scheme of self-government for India may be worked out, which will commend the approval and accord of all the leaders of thought in British India.

Six Months of Action

Reviewing political activities at Ottawa, a newspaper correspondent writes of the impression made upon him by the fact that the Bennett Government has had to deal with more serious problems in the first six months of office than any other Canadian administration in six years. In support of this statement he points out that an emergency session within a few weeks of the election was called to save Canadian industry and agriculture, to lessen unemployment and prevent distress. From this work Premier Bennett hurried to the Imperial Conference to lead the fight for an Empire trade policy, and to affirm the will of the Canadian people that there must be mutual Imperial preferences. Almost coincident with these activities came the disaster to the wheat pools, the prevention of their collapse and the orderly marketing of the huge surplus guaranteed. Home again, it was necessary for the Premier to go to the west and carry an assurance of a credit scheme, which brought hope to western farmers. Back in Ottawa but a short time, he went to Washington and served notice on President Hoover that "unfinished business" on the International agenda must be finished before other negotiations were commenced. Returning to the Capital, and preparing for the general tariff revision the necessity developed for immediate action to prevent the collapse of the motor business with its millions in investment and thousands of employees. Scarcely was this accomplished, when the Soviet trade proposals were before the Government and were met with decisive action to protect Canadian industry, agriculture and labor. It has been a record of such a half year's intense and necessary action and decision as may never again confront a Canadian Government.

Editorial Notes

Evidently it is quite legitimate play to shoot one's husband at bridge in Kansas City.

It has taken twelve years for a Saskatchewan grain grower to "discover" that the Canadian Wheat Board owes the west \$70,000,000 to \$100,000,000 in handling prairie wheat. Unfortunately for him, the Grain Board shows that in 1929 the balance due was only \$100,000.

The parties now in British politics are numerous and ever-increasing. At present besides the two old constitutional parties, Conservatives and Liberals there are: Rt. Hon. Ramsay MacDonald's Labour Party, Mr. James Macdonald's Independent Labour Party, Mr. Neil MacLean's Communist Party, Sir Oswald Mosley's New Party (Fascist), Lord Beaverbrook's Empire Free Traders, and Lord Rothermere's Empire Crusaders.

The forthcoming session of Parliament sets one precedent inasmuch as for the first time in history the ceremonies will be carried out by a native-born Canadian. It is to Rt. Hon. Lyman P. Duff of the Supreme Court of Canada, as acting Administrator of the Government, that the distinction of opening Parliament falls in the absence of a Governor-General. It has quite frequently happened that sessions have been prorogued by Chief Justices of the Supreme Court, but it has never been called into session except by a Governor-General. On the present occasion Chief Justice Anglin is in the South on sick leave and Mr. Justice Duff replaces him.

Notes by the Way

Russia with her convict labor has achieved an actual preference in the British markets for its wood products and nothing but a political upheaval in Britain will alter the situation and give Empire timber opportunity to enter the market, according to a bluntly worded report from British Columbia's Agent-General in London. It is added: "British Columbia Douglas fir continues to rank first in imports of Empire softwoods into the United Kingdom. In view, however, of foreign competition, and particularly the strangle hold Soviet timber has secured on this market, conditions are the reverse of favorable for any increased timber trade with Great Britain."

According to a special cable to the New York Times from Paris, the Rev. Pierre Robert, director of the French Catholic missionary fathers, in a statement in the halls of the French high court of appeals before the president of the French senate and other government officials on February 10, charged that at least 20,000 Chinese lives were sacrificed in revolutionary activity instigated and directly fostered by Russian Soviet agents from 1923 to 1930.

In suppressing a Communist demonstration, the New York police arrested a Russian who was shouting for bread in the front line of the demonstrators. An investigation showed that the foreigner had \$2,622 in a bank. If he saved that sum in his adopted country he was not justified in finding fault with conditions. But perhaps the money came from Moscow.

Russia is in process of outputting the United States in the production of cereal grains. In 1929 Russia's total acreage under wheat was 73 million, again 64 million in the United States. The Russian production of wheat in 1929 was about equal to the amount consumed per person in the United States. If the figures given for 1930 are correct, Russia is producing close upon seven and a half bushels per head of population against the United States 1930 output of about seven bushels per head.

John Bull, world trader, seems to delight in nothing so much as in confounding the prophets of his ruin. For the greater part of the year he allows their gloomy predictions to run unchecked and sits by in silence while they "view with alarm" the state of his enterprise. Then, just when there seems a danger that they may succeed in persuading the public that what they say is true and that the sun has really set on Britain as a great trading nation, he brings discomfiture to them by the simple expedient of publishing his annual balance sheet.

That balance sheet has just been issued once again by the Government. It shows that in the trading operations of the twelve months just ended John Bull closed his books with the tidy balance of \$186,000,000 on the right side of the ledger. Clearly the veteran trader is not yet thinking of putting up his shutters. While the visible balance of trade against him in the year was \$1,860,000, the invisible balance, such as foreign investments, dividends, and shipping services, which constitute the main source of his financial strength, was \$2,155,000,000 in his favour.

J. L. Garvin in the London Observer (Independent) says: "To say that tariffs, ably and reasonably designed, are a peril to exporting power is palpable and demonstrated nonsense. During the last half-decade the exports without free trade" can no longer country have made more progress than our own. The only great country which submits to "free imports without free" trade can no longer give lessons in organization and efficiency to any of the chief Protectionist countries. If British revival is to play its full part in the world-revival, tariff-equality is the indispensable means. The key of our own fortunes is in our own hands."

Of the 100,000 and more Indians in Canada, it is said that 5,000 are pagans. At that, the Red Man does not make a bad showing as compared with his white brothers, considering the advantages the latter possess.

Coals To Newcastle

(J. Butterfield in Vancouver Province) It is announced that the Scottish Highlands are to be graced by a new university with an endowment of \$10,000,000 to be collected by a body called the Iona Society in America. This passion for carrying the banner of education to foreign parts seems rather peculiar just as we have received the news that an old American university will close its doors for lack of funds. The general idea seems to be an endeavor to preserve for future generations the rich Celtic traditions and literature of the North of Scotland. But I have never yet heard that there was any likelihood of their dying out while there are any Scotsmen left. Indeed, if there could be found one better way than another to vitiate and destroy such a rich tradition I should think it would be done by establishing in those parts a modern and highly efficient American university. The Scotsman has never lacked facilities for education where education was desired and where young men were willing to make sacrifices to get it. The history of culture is rich in Scotsman who have practically forced their education from the world at a high cost to themselves in time, labor and determination. I would think that to such men it will appear an impertinence to force upon the whole population of the North of Scotland an institution of the sort suggested.



By James W. Barton, M.D.

COLDS AND PNEUMONIA.

A motorist thought he felt a little jar under his footboard, but it did not occur again for two or three days. He intended to speak to the garage man but as he only felt the jar occasionally he forgot about it. Stopping for a red signal light, he attempted to go ahead when the green light appeared but found his car would not go, although the engine was running all right. He was towed to a garage where it was found that an axle was broken and the lining of the hub was "chewed up". Had he attended to this first "knock" he would have saved a lot of money. What is my thought?

That the common cold can start in a very simple way by an irritation in nose and throat. If the individual neglects this cold, does nothing to cleanse out the Linstine, does nothing to induce sweating, continues to eat heavy meals, the cold may hang on and bronchitis develop. Despite care, pneumonia may follow and then he is in for real trouble.

As you know when you think of a serious illness you think first of pneumonia, for despite all the progress made in medicine by curing malaria, small pox, yellow fever, and lessening the death rate of tuberculosis, there does not seem to be much success in lessening the number of cases, or lowering the death rate, in pneumonia.

How does Pneumonia start? In the majority of cases, about four out of five, it follows a "cold."

The actual organism that causes pneumonia may be in the nose and throat in healthy people. It would seem that the cold either makes it more harmful, or what is more likely the cold renders the natural healthy lining of the nose and throat less healthy, and so the pneumonia organism doesn't have to fight hard to start trouble.

Thus the trouble extends from nose and throat down the bronchial tubes to the little tubes and little sacs or bags which form the lungs.

The same tissue, the same lining, as found in the nose and throat, extends downward to the lungs. If you were to spill some water on your vestibule floor, then there is nothing to hinder that water extending into the house, into sitting room, dining room or even the kitchen, because it is all the same floor.

So don't neglect a cold. It can usually be checked by rest in bed, cleansing intestine, inducing perspiration, and eating light meals.



FALLEN

I love these woods; but here and there a tree Sprawls like a broken wrestler where it fell; And I go softly, even fearfully, As one who looks on death. It may be well

That these unprofitable, ragged, strong Free things should perish. Yonder, line by line, The squat, green orchard trees advance along The hillside, making it demure and fine.

The vagabond must go, in man and tree, Whose being is not building; and his place Shall be for one who serves prosperously, So saith the busy world with sober face;

But barefoot dreamers have been known to bless, And cities have been lost in wilderness.

—Ethel Davies in The Australasian

Britons In The Argentine

(Montreal Gazette)

People in all parts of the British Empire are today taking a keen interest in Argentina because of the presence of the Prince of Wales and the visit there of a big delegation of Canadian business men and others in connection with the British Empire Trade Exhibition at Buenos Aires. The Prince, along with the President of Argentina, will open the exhibition. In the circumstances it may be well to recall the fact that British connection with the Argentine is an old story. The relations are discussed by Donald G. Begg, M. B. E., in the February number of United Empire, the journal of the Royal Empire Society. Mr. Begg reminds us that as far back as 1760, Paul W. Thompson and Dr. Michael O'Gorman went to Argentina, settled there, married into good Spanish families and rapidly rose to prominent positions in the service of the state. Later on, a British expedition went to Argentina during the Peninsular War, counting upon support from the malcontents discontented with Spanish rule. This was in 1806, and a year later a second expedition was organized. In the fighting many British were taken prisoners and remained in the country after the Argentines threw off their allegiance to Spain in 1810 and declared their independence. Fighting continued for six years more and in 1816 the formal recognition of Argentine independence was signed. By this time there were a couple of hundred Britishers in Argentina and they had a Chamber of Commerce whose membership was restricted to British people. These British pioneers became prominent in all branches of commerce and in the professions. They mixed in a social way with the best families. In 1825 their numbers were swelled by the arrival of Scottish Colonists and later on of Welsh settlers.

Today the British community numbers about 40,000 and the capital invested by them is estimated at \$3,000,000,000. British banks and insurance companies, including Canadian, railways, land and farming companies, industrialists and merchants, are to be found throughout the Republic. The British influence is likewise felt in the realms of sport, football, or "futbol," being the most popular game. The origin of many of the leading Argentine families is indicated by such names as Brown, Miller, Thompson, Newton, Winter, Howard, Fotheringham, O'Gorman, and others mentioned by Mr. Begg in his article. It is no wonder, then, that the Argentines admire and to a certain extent follow British customs. The field has been well ploughed and the trade possibilities are greater than ever. That they will give a fillip by the British Empire Trade Exhibition is undoubted, and it seems certain that Canada will benefit because of her own efforts and because of her membership in the family of British nations.

Radio And The Orator

(Ottawa Journal)

On Sunday afternoon we turned the dial of our radio, heard the Prime Minister speak on the League of Nations. As we listened we couldn't help wondering what effect radio will have upon the art of speaking. Mr. Bennett's speech, as radio speeches go, was a good one. He was, of course, reading from a manuscript, and it was clear that he had put time upon the composition of what he read. There was logical structure in his argument, his phrasing was good, if not distinguished, his enunciation all that could be desired.

But that was all. There was nothing in this speech, or this reading from a manuscript, that made us get excited about the League of Nations, or enthusiastic, and if in consequence of it anybody anywhere is converted to or made more ardent about the League, we shall be greatly surprised.

We are not blaming Mr. Bennett. Far from it. What we say, or what we are going to try to say, is that a radio speech, no matter who stands before the microphone, is a dull, insipid, stilted thing, without personality or persuasion, incapable of power or beauty or passion, barren of all those things which, all down through the ages, have made the appeal of the orator one of the mightiest of the arts.

Far better for the cause of the League of Nations had Mr. Bennett taken his manuscript to a printer, had it put into leaflet form, circulated it through the country. People then might read it, might be informed by its study of it, might be convinced by its reasoning and logic. There is always something compelling in a living piece of prose.

As it is, there is no record of what Mr. Bennett said, and who remembers what he said? The only public memory is of the Prime Minister striving desperately to get away from the dull monotone of reading, trying in vain to put something of emphasis into what he said, something that would carry conviction.

There is but one class of public speech that the radio can carry. It is the speech in which the orator stands in some auditorium before some vast



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audience, unmindful or unconscious of the microphone, depending solely upon voice and gesture, upon humor, pathos and passion to convince and capture his audience. Then comes over the air something of the personality of the speaker, something, too, of the excitement and atmosphere of the gathering, of the multitude, with passions not as gingerly in the mouth, cheering or jeering the orator, giving the occasion a soul.

But the studio speech, where a speaker stands alone before a microphone and reads or murmurs something into it, is an abomination, as cold and dull and uninspiring as a last year's laundry check. Why speakers who have something to say persist in saying it in such circumstances, passes understanding.

Of the evil effect of the practice upon public speaking there can be no doubt. And that art, Heaven knows, has suffered enough already, which is a pity. Since the record of history before man have thrilled under the sonorous cadences of orators with silver tongues. Wars and causes have been made, and great human reforms achieved, by some man whose tongue's tip has been marked with the golden point. Parliaments have been swayed and assemblies moved, as the current generation can only realize from accounts of their elders who have heard the wizardry of the spoken word. Palmerston, with his five hour speech on the Don Pacifico case, the long orations of Gladstone, the moving periods of Bright, the towering greatness of O'Connell, the majesty of Lincoln at Gettysburg, to cite but a few of the great orators of the past century and a half, were simply successors to a long line of great speakers of every nation and every tongue under Heaven.

In this day and age, we are told, we have grown too impatient to listen to oratory. There is nowhere in our own country a McGee to charm us with his eloquence, nowhere another Howe to speak with prophetic tongue, nowhere another orator of the beauty and power of Laurier. Were we too busy to listen to them? Would we be too busy, honestly, to listen to them now? Or is it that we are fertile in excuses for our barrenness in a great art, that the plea of pressure of time is but to cloak a feeble incompetence? It is easy to despise oratory. As easy as it is to despise painting, or poetry, or sculpture, or any of the great arts. But to those who know what oratory has meant all down through human history, who are aware that it was the agency of achievement by great world leaders from Pericles to Lincoln, belittlement of this character is properly understood. And because it is understood there can be nothing but regret to see the art of public speaking pushed further down the grade by men going

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into a room and reading without feeling and mechanically into a bit of mechanism.

To admit Art because it can improve individuals or the crowd, is like admitting roses because an eye-wash can be distilled from them.—De Bourmont.

A few feet under the ground reigns so profound a silence; and yet so much tumult on the surface.—Victor Hugo.

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