

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1924

NORTHUMBERLAND ELECTION

No doubt the air will be rent during the next few days with hoastings of the "great victory" in Northumberland, N. B., on Tuesday. Well may Premier King exclaim as did King Pyrrhus of old who, when being congratulated on a victory, in which his army was decimated, replied sadly, "Another such victory, where will my army be?"

The Liberal government succeeded in holding a seat which has been unbrokenly Liberal since 1904. The Liberal majority of 1421 in 1921 was cut to less than half, in face of the fact that the federal and provincial premiers with all their ministers and their would be ministers and all who could hold a political gun had camped on the ground for weeks previous to the election. Mr. Snowball, the Liberal candidate, was an old campaigner, an extensive lumber operator with many hundreds of employees at his command. His Conservative opponent, Mr. Hickey, was a young man, comparatively unknown outside of his own town of Chatham; his last year, in the growing dis-favour into which the King government had fallen and the growing consciousness that the Liberal government no longer deserved the support of the country. He made a splendid fight, some hundreds of former Liberal voters swung round to his side and, had it not been for the knowledge that the King government would be in office for the next year in any case and that the gift of any political fame would still be its, the other remainder would undoubtedly have voted against it.

No, the victory in Northumberland affords little consolation to the Liberal party and the failure of the Conservatives to capture it makes little difference to the fortunes of Canada. The King government is a fixture for another year and one more Conservative member would have made little difference. The only lesson is that the vote indicates the growing revulsion in Canada against the King government, a revulsion so clearly told in every bye-election since 1921 that the doom of the government at the general election is inevitably fixed.

TO OTHERS, PROPHECY

The gift of prophesy appears to have fallen suddenly on the Rt. Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, and on his "shop" at Ottawa. Having nothing commendable to look back upon, he has turned his eyes to the indefinite future in whose infinite womb there are all kinds of possibilities. There is also the advantage that no forecast of the future can be proved inaccurate. One may predict the end of the world, a devastating earthquake or a devouring flood on a certain day and a certain portion of the world will await the catastrophe in fear and trembling, till the day fixed for it has passed and nothing has happened. In the meantime the prediction stands and the prophet's apostles preach it, none daring to contradict it.

The other day, at a public meeting in Port Arthur, Premier King announced with the confidence of an inspired prophet that before the end of the present fiscal year, 50,000 Canadians would have returned from the United States! And the apostles, not then but since, threw up their hats in the air and shouted "Certainly Canada is on the upgrade!"

We shall not enquire into the occult reasoning on which Mr. King based his prediction. At present the facts are all against him. Canadians are still pouring over the border into the United States and very few of them are returning, we know.

The present probability is that the still increasing stream of emigration will continue increasingly as it has done during the first six months of the year. Still prediction has the merit of uncertainty and skeptics must await the end of the fiscal year before they can with any assurance place the prediction in the long list of things which Premier King said would happen and did not.

In our despatches yesterday came another prediction, one for the benefit of Canadian farmers particularly and for those dependent upon the farmers generally. This one emanated from the "shop" at Ottawa and not from the Prime Minister, at least it is attributed to the former. It is to the effect that Canadian farmers will receive \$120,000,000 on the sale of this year's crop whereas, last year, "they made nothing at all, in fact showed a loss, on the year's operations." This is great news and there is good reason to believe that Canadian farmers, particularly the wheat growers, will receive much more for their crops than they did last year. But the definite figure, like that of the Canadian bluff, throws the shadow of uncertainty on the prospect. His admiring followers call Mr. Mackenzie King a great optimist. He is—if his frequent peerings in a splendid fight, some hundreds of former Liberal voters swung round to his side and, had it not been for the knowledge that the King government would be in office for the next year in any case and that the gift of any political fame would still be its, the other remainder would undoubtedly have voted against it.

Looking back over Mr. Mackenzie King's record as a statesman and a prophet, we are forced to the conclusion that his predictions are no more reliable than his statesmanship and that, as a statesman, he is the greatest failure that Canada has ever known. Even his own friends will not seriously question this. Bluff is, or rather has been, his forte; even that is now petering out and when it is gone there will be nothing left.

These human exports are Canada's very life-blood. The paths by which they cross the border line to exile in a foreign land at a score of ports between the Atlantic and the Pacific are so many open and bleeding wounds through which the very life and strength of the nation is being poured out. What shall we say of the "balance of trade" in that regard? Is it a favorable balance, or an adverse balance? It must be taken into the account, for from month to month and from year to year, under the malign influence of misrule the wounds gape wider and Canada's life-blood pours forth in an increasing torrent.

In a month the population of a city more populous than Charlottetown has been swept away. In six months past 96,000 Canadians have gone—a number greater than the entire population of Prince Edward Island! That is the showing made by the "balance of trade" in flesh and blood under the King government.

Premier King wants to reform the Senate because there are now 60 Conservative Senators, 31 Liberals, one Labour, and only two vacancies. The "Uncrowned" King cannot do as did the Crowned King, threaten to create enough additional members of the upper house to make it pass government measures.

Sir Arthur Currie, as an educational expert, says the reason why fifty percent of the first year students of McGill fail to graduate is caused by poorly paid teachers, or did not work. Sport, he says, had little or nothing to do with it. Now are just and loving in your home, and will be very fortunate in the

Notes By The Way

Exports from Canada now exceed imports and this fact is frequently referred to in a number of newspapers as evidence of the prosperity of the Dominion. Those who take this view of the case say the balance of trade is in our favor; we are selling more than we buy. As a matter of fact, Great Britain, until recent years the wealthiest nation and the greatest trader in the whole family of nations has for a century past and during the period of her greatest prosperity always had an excess of imports over exports.

How, then, has Britain managed to pay the adverse balance? From other sources. One of these sources has been the interest and earnings derived from untold millions of pounds loaned or invested abroad. Another source of growing income and wealth has been the earnings of her ships in the carrying trade of the world. For a long period before the Great War British ships were doing not only the carrying trade of the British people but to a large extent that of other nations as well, and the yearly earnings of her vast tonnage were brought home to British ports, to become a part of the growing wealth of the nation.

Canada's case is different from Britain's. One is a young country and for that reason has but little accumulated wealth and has comparatively little money loaned or invested abroad. What has been so loaned or invested is but a fraction of the amount which she has borrowed abroad and on which she is paying interest. There is all the difference in the world between paying interest on borrowed money and receiving interest on money that has been saved, accumulated and loaned to another party. Britain has been for generations past the great money lender of the world. Canada has been for generations a borrower. It is equally true with regard to ocean freights that Britain receives while Canada pays.

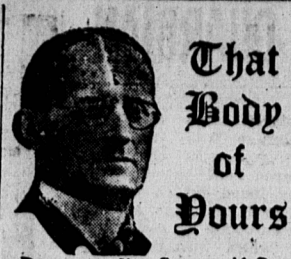
The farmer who is in debt and who is paying interest to the amount of half the value of his crop must of necessity sell much more than he can buy. That fact is not an evidence of his prosperity but the reverse. That appears to be a fair statement of Canada's case in regard to the balance of trade. The difference between the values sold and the values bought is absorbed in the payment of interest abroad and freights paid to British and foreign carriers, and is quite insufficient to pay these charges. Hence the Dominion continues to borrow while other more prosperous countries are paying their debts.

Unfortunately Canada is sending abroad other products than those of her fields and factories, in much larger quantities and values than she is receiving. She is exporting men and women and children in tens of thousands. These are the most precious and the most needed of all her possessions. They have been bred, nurtured and educated at enormous cost. For other products exported she receives a price—millions of dollars—but for this priceless product of brain and brawn, of intelligence, patriotism, skill in handicrafts, sturdy frames and willing hands, she receives no price or payment!

These human exports are Canada's very life-blood. The paths by which they cross the border line to exile in a foreign land at a score of ports between the Atlantic and the Pacific are so many open and bleeding wounds through which the very life and strength of the nation is being poured out. What shall we say of the "balance of trade" in that regard? Is it a favorable balance, or an adverse balance? It must be taken into the account, for from month to month and from year to year, under the malign influence of misrule the wounds gape wider and Canada's life-blood pours forth in an increasing torrent.

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October 9.—You have a thoughtful mind, common sense, and confidence in your own powers. You love children and animals, and are fond of amusement. You are just and loving in your home, and will be very fortunate in the



By James W. Barron, M.D.

THE VALUE OF THE PLAYGROUND

A very striking fact was learned by a judge of a juvenile court recently, whose customers come from certain definite sections of the city. The boys in these neighborhoods were more or less grouped in gangs, and it was different members of these gangs, that appeared before him for misdemeanors from time to time.

In two of these centres playgrounds were established by the city authorities. Within a very short space of time, the number of boys appearing before him from these two centres decreased greatly in numbers, whereas the other centres, where no playgrounds were established, continued to send their usual large quota to his court.

A little investigation soon revealed the fact that the playground was entirely responsible for the improvement in the behavior of the boys.

Why? Well a growing boy or girl, any growing animal in fact, must have opportunities for expressing the needs of the brain and body. Both brain and body want in fact to be active.

If there is no normal outlet such as the organized or group play found in the playground, then the boy and brain will occupy themselves with things that are of a forbidden nature. The group of boys that compose the "gang," will go as a gang where there is something that takes perhaps thought and physical effort.

It may be climbing fences, breaking into warehouses, waylaying a baker and stealing his bread and cakes, upsetting a fruit cart, and the many other things that a "gang" will think about, and act upon. But that same gang will use their thought and physical effort in a game of baseball or other group game.

Their energies will be expended, they will grow physically improved, they will have a healthy appetite, and a normal amount of sleep following naturally. They have no time, no thought, no energy left to get into mischief. Aside entirely from the moral standpoint, playgrounds are a good investment for any municipality.

Trade and Commerce

I have been at some pains to discuss the general opinion of exhibitors on the future of Wembley and the desirability of its re-opening next year. The electrical industry for one, is definitely against a continuance of Wembley next year. In answer to a question whether they considered Wembley had been to them in the broad sense of the term "worth while," whether its efforts on their turnover had been immediate or whether, on the other hand, its results would be cumulative or negative and would consider continuing their exhibits for another year, one of the largest exhibitors stated that though the exhibition has been worth while from the points of view of orders, increase in prestige and propaganda, they will not continue their exhibit whether the Exhibition is open next year or not. This opinion, which may be taken as typical, is not surprising. Wembley, except in a few special cases, has not resulted in any great rush of orders. It is not too much to say that few expected that it would. The chemical trade, the cabinet makers, and almost every other trade that does not deal in popular and cheap stuffs of which samples can be given away, seem of the same opinion. It has, however, laid a foundation on which each firm has the responsibility of building its own superstructure.

Germany and Her Old Colonies. The announcement that certain lands in the Cameroons, the former property of Germany, are for sale without reservation, has caused some surprise in the fruit, tobacco, and sugar trades in London. There may be economic reasons for such a sale, but it is irritating to British sentiment to see the possibility of Germany being once more in the possession of the factory sites, piers and commercial premises in their old colony, our acquisition of which should have made a fine opening for imperial enterprise. We hope that this will not prove a precedent for "sales without reservation" in S. W. Africa, E. Africa, Samoa and New Guinea. The chauvinist party in Germany is as we know looking out for opportunities of imperial expansion and we have bought these territories too dearly to sell them back.

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That Body of Yours

few centuries. Then there are the Palaces of Engineering, Industry and Art, and the Government Pavilion. These buildings, too, are designed for centuries of wear. Are they going to be left derelict, or are they going to be the raison d'être of annual attempts to revive large scale exhibitions of the 1924 pattern? It is not likely that the much enthusiasm is going to be roused by the idea of repeating the British Empire Exhibition next year. The real concern at the moment is the utilization of the concrete structures in the Exhibition grounds. The Palaces of Engineering and Industry would be excellent buildings for housing trade fairs (the British Industries Fair, for instance), and there is no reason why one of those buildings should not be employed as a permanent museum for examples of the industrial Art of the Empire, so that in the grounds of Wembley there should be an enduring reminder of the great Empire Exhibition of 1924, and a very valuable record of the capabilities of British firms in different parts of the Empire. At the moment there is no such record in this country, although the annual exhibitions organized by the British Institute of Industrial Art afford illuminating glimpses of progress. This museum would grow year by year in interest, and its educational value for the public would be matched only by its practical value to trade representatives who wished to see a really instructive demonstration of the ability of manufacturers in the British Empire. Historians in remote future centuries will no doubt derive real entertainment from the spectacle of a vast undertaking like the 1924 Exhibition being apparently without any plans being made for the future. Maybe something in the nature of an annual world fair of the magnitude and importance of the pre-war Leipzig Fair will keep Wembley alive.

The Labor Party's Foreign Policy. The Premier's efforts have been successful and through the intercession of Dr. Nansen, many have decided to join the "League of Nations" and as was foreshadowed in this column three weeks ago, the Labor party will be ready to face an election in the Autumn, with a clear statement from their platform that whether the Russian treaty is right or wrong, they have succeeded in six months in achieving more for the peace of Europe than their predecessors had done since the war. Although they may wait until the Spring when another "bumper" budget from Mr. Snowden may strike a popular note on which to fight, they have now more than ever a good chance of being returned with a working majority. Meanwhile, the question as to whether the Anglo-Russian treaty is to be ratified or not at the forthcoming session of Parliament, is rapidly becoming a first-class political issue. The Labor party, in its trade union movement generally, are urging that the treaty be ratified and stipulated loan made to the Soviet Government. On the other hand, there is a considerable amount of feeling in the country upon the other side, and the Federation of British Industries seems likely to throw in its weight against the treaty. Opinions are divided to such an extent that there was much talk before the news came in of General's joining the League, of a general election being fought practically on this issue alone.

China and British Trade. Although the civil war in China does not embolden more than a fraction of the Chinese population and the commercial classes as a whole stand aside and pursue their trades almost regardless of it, much alarm is felt in England for the damage that may be done to British trade. For the first six months of 1924 imports into this country from China amounted to approximately 5 millions and our exports for the same period to £10,000,000. We can ill afford the loss of such a market, and even though rain is preventing any serious fighting at the moment, the knowledge that the Central Government is making extensive preparations and dispatching an army to Manchuria and the location of the fighting around what is to us perhaps the most important town in China, Shanghai, is causing some uneasiness.

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Daily Selections FOR Guardian Readers. OCTOBER 9, 1924.

BOAST NOT.—Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth. Proverbs 27:1.

PRAYER.—"Lord, for tomorrow and its needs I do not pray; Keep me, my God, from staining sin, Just for today."

AUTUMN. The autumn winds are sighing, Deep sighing, sad and low; And in their mournful cadence There is an unknown woe.

Sobbing and sighing and heaving, Like some worn-out sorrowing child, Whose grief is now subsiding, That once was fierce and wild.

Each heart alone, a-dreaming, Has its own autumn rains, Its dreary wail a-weariness, "Sweet hope comes not again."

But folded with each fallen leaf, Lie dreams of long ago, To form the mold of earth and mind From which new dreams will grow.

—Jean Wolcott-Piper. "Mother Graves' Worm Exterminator will drive worms from the system without injury to the child, because its action, while fully effective, is mild."

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