

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1931

THE JAIL SITUATION

The suggestion of the Grand Jury at the opening of the Supreme Court in Summerside with regard to the need of a central jail for the Province is one which will doubtless be given serious consideration by the Government.

Labor side the miners, with 24 representatives, contribute the only solid block of Trade Unionists. There are 56 Oxford and 27 Cambridge men in the House.

NEWSPAPER PROGRESS

By simply pressing a key in Toronto Major John W. Sifton, secretary-treasurer and one of the proprietors of the Free Press of Winnipeg, Man., set in motion a 750-ton printing press in Winnipeg.

Major Sifton (brother of the now famous Mr. Harry Sifton, Mr. MacKenzie King's critic) telephoned his congratulations across 1,400 miles of wire to Mr. E. H. Macklin, president of the Free Press.

A POLITICAL "SHOCK"

"I was inexpressibly shocked to read of the disgraceful proceedings in the Queen's County Jail."—Anonymous Patriot correspondent signing himself "True Temperance."

Both of these quotations are from our contemporary's issue of yesterday.

One wonders how "True Temperance" succeeded in repressing his "inexpressibly shocked" feelings during the recent four years of Liberal rule, when similar disturbances occurring repeatedly in the jails passed without comment, editorial or anonymous, in the Liberal organ.

EDITORIAL NOTES

In the case of the National Service Loan, Canadians as bankers are loaning to Canadians as builders. The money will go not merely to numerous undertakings of a public character that will give employment, but to assist Canada in building still higher her national integrity and self-esteem.

There are 200,000 abandoned farms in the States of Pennsylvania, according to the census returns. Much of the soil is naturally poor and has been allowed to run down through continuous cropping.

Further research into pre-Confederation history in this Province by Prof. D. C. Harvey has resulted in the publication by the Royal Society of Canada of a pamphlet dealing with the Reform Movement and Family Compact.

NOTES BY THE WAY

An American Periodical says: "In England the radio is infinitely superior to our own in every respect. In fact, the English entertainment on the air makes ours by comparison appear like a cheap, gaudy common-place lot of clatter."

Of Premier Macdonald's five separate declarations of policy announced at the Lord Mayor's annual banquet in London, one only is concerned immediately with conditions in the United Kingdom.

Better Wheat prices is more than a state of mind says the Vancouver Province. It is employment for men who have been out of work. It is dollars in the pockets of prairie farmers.

When is Indian summer? In order to answer the question turn to the dictionary and find the description. "A period of mild weather in the autumn, with hazy atmosphere usually along the horizon, and a clear sky. It corresponds to the English St. Luke's or St. Martin's summer."

Japan needs coal, iron, timber, and agricultural products from Manchuria. She has investments there estimated, it is said, at a billion dollars. The South Manchuria Railway is controlled by her, and she has important treaty rights.

Even for the individual, health and happiness are unattainable, at least in their higher forms, so long as his natural skill-hunger remains unsatisfied. Dull and drab at the best in the life of the unskilled; dull and drab, and often vicious in the effort to escape from the dullness and the drabness—the origin of most of the vices that disfigure and poison our civilization.

A Great Elizabethan

Shakespeare has so dominated the record of the Elizabethan age of English literature that few other names occur as we think back on the record. One of those found in most anthologies is Michael Drayton, whose death occurred in December, 1631.

Like the immortal Bard of Avon, he was born in Warwickshire, and later went to London to ply his literary trade. He did not live the gay life favored by some other writers, but rather was restrained and exemplary in habit.

Anthologies usually give a place to Drayton's poignant sonnet, "Parting," with the opening line, "Since there's no help, come let us kiss and part."

There was no weakened nationalism in the day of Drayton. The British flag was finding new resting places about the world, and Drayton's spirit into the breast of Englishmen.

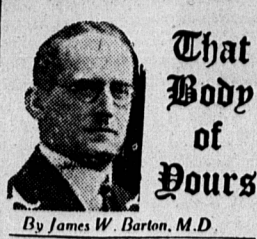
A Ponsonby Book

The Week-end Review, a London periodical, contains the following amusing review of a recently published book "Casual Observations," by Lord Ponsonby, a former member of the Labor Government in England and a cousin of the Governor General of Canada.

So much sense and sensibility as Lord Ponsonby casually reveals can rarely have appeared before between two covers. Imagine if you can the best of Eton and the Labor Movement combined, and you have two of the elements which give these pages their fine charm.

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By James W. Barton, M.D.

OPERATION FOR GOITRE LESS DANGEROUS

Before undergoing an operation for removal of a goitre, the patient must naturally ask himself whether his or her case is severe enough to need an operation, what the chances of success are likely to be, and also what danger is there in the operation itself.

In former days the operation for the removal of goitre was attended with considerable danger and patients often travelled hundreds of miles to have it performed.

The average weight gained by the majority of these cases was about nine pounds. The average heart rate before operation was about 105 beats to the minute.

In regard to the increased rate of speed in the various building up and tearing down processes in the body, before operation this was 28 per cent above normal, and after the operation it was 8 per cent above.

Taking all the factors into consideration Dr. Noehren would place the proportion of cures three months after the operation as somewhere between 80 and 90 per cent.

Now there are different kinds and degrees of goitre. Rest and daily doses of iodine will cure some of the simple forms. The use of the X ray and of radium has cured many cases where operation was refused or was considered inadvisable.

It is gratifying to know that where operation must be undergone, that the results are so satisfactory, and the danger so slight.

gulled for a whole evening. The best I will not quote (e. g., the Bovril story, 'The Gourmet', or 'The Victim'). But of special interest to readers of this review and, above all, to competitors, is the choice selection of examples of the art of epitomisation from which may be quoted:—

Un Anglais un imbécille. Deux Anglais deux imbécilles. Trois Anglais une grande nation. We smart, but we smile, as Lord Ponsonby says. If this one has been quoted before—then it deserves quoting twice. I also especially liked the changes rung by the author on his name in one of the most graceful of these pieces.

Most of these thirty-six papers appeared in the Manchester Guardian. Of this volume the simplest praise alone suffices. It is good.

The finest endurance record we know of is a golden wedding.

Candidate (to interrupter)—"Really, sir, are you the candidate or am I?" Interrupter—"Oh, no, sir, I'm not the candidate." Candidate—"Very well, then, don't talk like an idiot."

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The War Debts

(Montreal Gazette) No part of the economic crossword puzzle, which is putting so severe a strain upon human wit at this time, has created a greater amount of tortuous and futile discussion than the reparations problem.

It sits heavy upon the sou of modern nations. The more it is examined the worse seems the in-tricite snarl into which this question has become involved. While European diplomats are in Paris trying to smooth out the Sino-Japanese trouble, this conclave also is made to do double duty.

For, at intervals, or during a recess of the League Council, some of the representatives are engaged in fingering over the proposition which Germany is about to submit to the bank for International Settlements at Basel, and which will bring anew into political spotlight the old question as to Germany's capacity to pay the indemnities as set down in the Young plan.

Article 130 of that document, which empowers the Bank for International Settlements to appoint a special commission for the purpose of investigating Germany's capacity to pay. The French interpretation of this article is that it stands clear of any other debts which the German nation may have to sustain; and that the war indemnities account has nothing to do with any debts or obligations contracted by private agreement or through any other avenue save the Versailles Treaty and the Young plan.

Further, it is argued in Paris that the indemnities schedule at the full, as now embodied in the Young plan, does not involve more than four per cent of the German revenue, and that a much larger sum than the reparations claim is invested elsewhere by German financiers, for example, in Russia.

In short, it is contended that the pressure and burden of the war debts indemnities have been played up and exaggerated, just as, in another phase of the problem, we are told from Washington that the war debts account of Europe, earmarked for the United States, is a very moderate ratio as compared with the income of the debtor nations.

There is another, however. The Germans do not accept any light-some view of their debts. They stress the point that reparations payments are dependent upon the domestic fiscal welfare of the German nation as a whole, and are subject to a halt, or moratorium, whenever they threaten to play havoc with the domestic budget of the nation and its routine business contracts.

He argues that all debts, private and public, go into the general reckoning, but they cannot be separated in actuality and that they equally affect the fiscal status of the German nation. He upholds the Reich in making a move for starving off the reparations quota, and in seeking for a revision or a cancellation of the war debts. He argues that they cannot be paid and Germany remain solvent. So long as there remains a bill amounting to some half-billion dollars, annually, atop of the short-term credits and loans Germany must meet out of her revenue from exports and manufactures, it is impossible for the nation to recover its poise.

Germany, this economist contends, will never command or regain credit so long as she has no better security to offer than the system which has been in vogue ever since the reparations scheme was devised.

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Uncle Sam Thinking Hard

(Ottawa Journal)

Britain's action in resorting to dumping duties, coupled with preferences for the Dominions, is producing some hard thinking down Washington way.

THE WETTEST SUMMER YET THEN DRIEST AUTUMN

London Suffers From The Vagaries of Weather Such As Has Not Been Known in Century.

LONDON, Nov. 23.—In meteorological records 1931 will go down as the year of extraordinary weather. Summer was the wettest and the coldest for more than a century.

For 17 days recently there was no rain in London and that during the month which is generally wettest Official drought prevailed in many areas in Eastern and Southern Britain.

The normal average rainfall for October at Kew Observatory was just under three inches. The previous driest October was in 1921, when there was a total fall of just slightly less than half an inch.

The average night minimum temperature for October 1931, was approximately 41 degrees. Not for many years, however, has there been an autumn with such a succession of crisp sunlit days.

The Poet's Corner

FROM "THE FINE"

All is erased; leaving this slendering pine Alone, like a fine etching on the sky. The air, even, a rare sublimity, A nothingness, against which to define One tree. No cloud is there, not even yet.

A star. Only the waning amber light Reluctant to resign unto the night This signal hour, whereon one thought was set. —Gertrude MacGregor Moffat.

PREPARE FOR 1934 CONGRESS

VATICAN CITY, Nov. 25.—(CP).—The 1934 Eucharistic Congress will be held in Buenos Aires, Vatican officials announce today. The exact date was not set.

The decision was made by the general assembly of International Eucharistic Congress meeting in Paris and was approved by Pope Pius XI after being forwarded here. The holding of the 1932 congress in Dublin also was approved by the assembly and the Pope.

A special St. Patrick's celebration will be held in Dublin at the same time as the 1932 congress, which meets June 22 for four days.

CHIEF OFFICER

As the magnificent new liner steamed into the port, a grimy little coal barge shot across her bows.

The officer of the watch on the new liner picked up his megaphone. "Hi, there," he yelled, "get that dirty little tub of yours out of the way!"

A small man standing on the barge stuck out his jaw aggressively. "Are you the captain of that ship?" he demanded.

"No," returned the officer puzzled. "Then dashed well speak to your equals," snapped the little fellow. "I'm the captain of this one."

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