

THE CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1934

REDUCED GAS PRICES

For some time past the Provincial Government has been greatly concerned over the discrepancy between gasoline prices on the Island and in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. It has been recognized that higher prices on the Island militate against full development of its possibilities as a tourist paradise and unduly burden every gasoline consumer.

explained by our local contemporary. Certainly it does not represent Conservative opinion, as was shown the other day by the terms of reference which the Bennett Government has given to the White Commission to inquire into the whole question of our financial claims upon the Dominion.

EDITORIAL NOTES

What to do with the Sims Building is the next problem.

Hallowe'en with its fun and festivities is in the offing.

The White Maritime Commission has made a most businesslike and practical beginning.

It is quite evident Lord Snowden does not like Mr. Bennett. He smashed his Free Trade government.

The Medical Officer of Health of Toronto wishes that city to go one better than London in noiselessness. He wants all milk wagons on early morning routes to be equipped with rubber tires and the horses with rubber shoes.

The oil companies of themselves could not get together to eliminate such practices because it might be construed as an offence under the Anti-Combine Law.

If proof were wanted that Premier Bennett's policy was best for Canada, best for Britain, and best for the Empire, Lord Snowden has supplied it. Mr. Bennett, he says, dominated both at London and Ottawa, compelling the delegates from the Mother Country to come to terms.

In Canada parents of children under twenty-one are relieved to a certain extent of income tax. In Italy Mussolini not only exempts them, but gives them a money bonus as well.

Premier MacMillan and his colleagues are to be warmly congratulated on the success attending their efforts in this connection, the result of which will be a substantial saving to every consumer of gasoline within the Province.

A SERIOUS OFFENCE

For the convenience of the public, the voters' lists, as taken by the enumerators, have been posted throughout the city, and all voters are advised to see that they are properly registered on the lists.

It is necessary to emphasize, however, that these lists must not be torn or destroyed. Already complaint has been received that one of the lists posted has been torn down. This is a very serious offence, the penalty for which is thus set forth in the Election Act:

"34. (1) Every person unlawfully taking down, covering up, mutilating, defacing or altering any printed or written proclamation, notice, list of electors or other document, authorized or required by this Act to be posted up, is guilty of an indictable offence against this Act and liable on indictment or on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand dollars and costs of prosecution, or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years with or without hard labour, or to both such fine and costs and such imprisonment."

LIBERAL COMMENT

The comment, reprinted elsewhere in today's Guardian, by an Ontario Liberal newspaper on Premier Macdonald's threat to assail the "high tariff camp of Central Canada," is rather illuminating. "We know of no weapon," says our Ontario Liberal contemporary, "that the Premier of Nova Scotia is able to apply in the assailing process. The Maritimes are outwitted at Ottawa; the dog, in this case, will certainly not allow himself to be wagged by the tail."

In effect, Premier Macdonald is told that in inveighing against tariff protection he is simply talking through his hat; that it is not a partisan political question, and that there is little chance of getting lower tariffs so long as other countries persist in clinging to the utmost of protection. "Lower tariffs," in short, "must follow international agreement."

This is the attitude which the Bennett Government has consistently maintained, and if there were a change of government tomorrow it would have to be the attitude of whatever administration was in power at Ottawa, irrespective of its campaign criticisms and promises to the contrary.

As for the Ontario Liberal editor's comment on the Maritime claims question, we shall leave that to be

Notes By The Way

There are some fine capable young men and women around today who have been graduated by our schools and from our colleges. They are on our streets. Their education represents the result of earnest effort on their part and self-sacrifice on the part of hopeful parents. We have these young men and women on our hands. What are we going to do about it? They have done their part and certainly deserve consideration. This is a problem with which previous leaders in our economic world have never had to deal. The problem may be a serious one. It is increasing as our list of graduates increases.—Ed.

"Let them get it off their chest" is the rule which the English adopted long ago for all groups which feel they have a grievance against a God-given authority. It is a rule which the British nation in particular, at Hyde Park, are permitted to get it off their chest at lib. They may be little the king, curse the House of Lords, denounce parliamentary leaders and figuratively speaking even thumb their nose at the Archbishop of Canterbury. There are bobbies standing by to see that traffic is not blocked. With that the law is satisfied. In this devotion to free speech beyond doubt the injurious effects of the tariff on this Province, that case will not be acceptable to the disciples of high tariff in Quebec and Ontario.

In this attitude of the Nova Scotia premier one can see the possibility of a great revival of the national argument in Canada, a revival that can be of no great value to the country and that may easily do a great deal of harm. If, as Mr. Macdonald says, Quebec and Ontario would oppose the low tariff proposals, the Prairie Provinces would be inclined to agree with Nova Scotia—very little could be accomplished, for the excellent reason that Ontario and Quebec have a larger combined population and consequently larger representation in the House of Commons. Naturally, any legislation aimed at the reduction of tariffs would have to be passed by Parliament and the two old Provinces control more than half the votes there.

But, someone will say, not all the people of Ontario and Quebec are in favor of a high tariff policy. True. On the other hand, not all the people of the other Provinces mentioned are in favor of low tariffs. But we are not speaking against the other in this respect.

One of the troubles in Nova Scotia, as we see it, is that so many public men there have a tendency to paint the rest of the country as being unrightedly in the Maritimes. Scores a frequent hit. It is always with all these aids to proper building removed—a la Patriot—and the groucher's improved system in full swing what the outcome will be.

First the leveling and grading of the road-bed with picks and shovels (that is if spending money on these tools will be permitted) it would take the whole unemployed population about a full year, carrying the clay from point to point in bags, or in baskets on their heads, to prepare a single mile of road-bed. It would then take the same number another five years to carry the sand from the sea shore, removed and the monster tar-tarvis or asphalt from the shipping depot. And here would be another snag to interfere with the Patriotic plans. These ship owners as men with money would be getting their freight with money intended for the unemployed.

At every phase of the work, the Liberal organ, in both its inspired and uninspired propaganda, emits a discordant note. It asks, in a sense behind it than would emanate from Bedlam. Take for instance its latest formulae for road construction:—

Don't spend a dollar for expert direction, nor for any purpose other than labor. How much, it asks, the money goes to the working man? Why employ trucks, and overseers, and engineers, and watchmen? Stop it all and hand out the funds to labor. Let the workers do the work. Heal the gravel and sand, and cement, and asphalt carried to the mixing machine, and from thence to the road works in bags on the backs of human drays, or in baskets on their heads, in the manner of Chinese coolies.

The stupidity of these arguments is too ridiculous to answer, but they are the outpourings of Liberal protests and persistent whining, between the Danubian basin and which might better be devoted to some higher measure of intelligence.

If the Bennett Government were mad enough to follow the outlined programmes of the Patriot, it asks, what kind of a highway would we have to risk our lives on, and what return would we get for the millions of its cost? Don't employ trucks; that is spending the money with those who are not poor or out of employment? Don't buy tarvis or asphalt, that is buying from the rich and those not in need. Don't employ expert supervisors or constructors, the money is not for them—It is exclusively for labor. Don't employ "Poor" watchmen, one at each end of a detour, with a night shift, two in day and two in night. Better leave these unwatched, and imperil life and limb so that these wages can go to some other class of labor. Don't employ a freeman and engineer to handle the machinery for mixing. Hand it to the unskilled labor to have an explosion and blow up the whole world.

Following the Patriot's method of road building how long would it take to build a mile of highway, and what would it cost? Road machines, worked by the horses of farmers who are not all in poverty onions retail in Boston 10 lbs. for 25 cents. While no. 2 and no. 3 small ones sell here at 19 cents for 10 lbs. The Boston quality retail at these, it is for the unemployed. 36 cents. Take the wholesaler and

Ontario Liberal Comment

On N. S. Premier's Threat To Assail Tariff Citadel

The Hon. Angus L. Macdonald, youthful Prime Minister of Nova Scotia, proposes to take a vigorous hand in national affairs.

Addressing the Annapolis Liberal Association, Mr. Macdonald says that should the Royal Commission investigating Nova Scotia's economic position look favorably upon arguments presented by the Government and by many citizens with respect to the tariff, then it is the intention of the Provincial Administration "to carry the fight for Nova Scotia's rights directly into the high tariff camp of Central Canada. . . . We shall assail that citadel within which Central Canadian millionaires have fattened at the expense of the people of the Maritime Provinces." This, of course, is just a flight of fanciful oratory, because we know of no weapons that the Premier of Nova Scotia is able to apply in the assailing process. The Maritimes are outwitted at Ottawa; the dog, in this case, will certainly not allow himself to be wagged by the tail.

Already too many tears have been shed, it seems to us, over conditions in New Brunswick. Our observation is that people in that part of the country are getting along just about as well as Canadians in other sections. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island have their difficulties, it is true, but will anyone suggest that other Provinces are without them? Furthermore, the whole of Canada can hardly be blamed if geographical conditions work against the Maritime Provinces.

Sometimes, too, we are inclined to think that many Maritimers are a bit ungrateful. We can think of no section of the country—keeping in mind population figures and relative importance—that has had greater attention from the authorities at Ottawa. The whole of Canada is anxious to help the Maritimes in every possible way and this feeling has been reflected in Ottawa's attitude on many occasions. There are limits, and Mr. Macdonald's threat to assail the citadel in which Central Canadian millionaires have fattened at the expense of the people of the Maritime Provinces comes close to being one of them. The Prime Minister of Nova Scotia will find, as he grows older, that much more can be accomplished by conciliatory methods than by threats.

So far as tariff walls are concerned, we agree that they are too thick. But we do not see the possibility of getting them lowered so long as other countries persist in clinging to the utmost in protection. Lower tariffs must follow international agreement to that end; the game is not one for an individual player. It demands team work.

PUBLIC FORUM

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

THE PATRIOT ROAD BUILDERS

Sir,—What kind of children are those in control of the groucher machinery, either directly or indirectly, that these daily hash-outs have the flavor of imbecility.

Why keep in constant parade the absurd argument that the highway grants are simply look deposits for the unemployed? Heed the cry of providing employment, without any consideration?

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"The Haberdashery" Beautiful NEW OVERCOATS Priced \$13.50, \$15.00, \$16.50, \$18.00 up to \$30.00. Come in and see our large and complete showing of smartly tailored overcoats. Meltons, Silvertones and Elysians are much favored this season and the prices are even more attractive than last year. If you are interested in a perfect fitting overcoat let us show you the new Fashion Crafts. Stables English Elysian Overcoats priced at \$22.50.

Henderson & Cudmore MEN'S WEAR

retailer's profit from the U. S. 25 cents and what does the grower get? And if we had Liberal reciprocity, allowing these cheap onions to flood our markets, what would our farmers get for their products, or would they be able to sell them at any price? Finest sliced bacon and block bacon sells at retail in New Brunswick at 11 cents to 12 cents. Picnic hams, fresh, corned or smoked, at 14 cents to 17 cents. In Canada, bacon retails at 33 cents to 50 cents, and picnic hams 16 cents upwards. These prices give our farmer from 3 cents to 5 cents per lb. for his pork more than the United States farmer gets for his. Liberal reciprocity propagandists want our duty of 3 cents per lb. on pork to be removed, and the cheap pork of the States to take their markets from them and put our pork raisers out of business.

Condensed milk, so in our stores at 11 cents and 12 cents retails in U. S. stores, 4 tins for 23 cents. This is the price our milk producers would get if the duty were removed and Liberal reciprocity made law. You can buy a duck, dressed, cooked and ready for the table, at 80 cents to 90 cents. Our farmer gets \$1 to \$1.25 for the same size in its uncooked state. What would ducks sell for here if duties were removed and the monster bakeries of the United States permitted to ship these into our markets?

Canadian apples are protected by a duty of 90 cents per barrel, grapes two cents per pound, tomatoes 10 percent, canned vegetables, plums thirty percent, vegetables of every description N. O. P. 30 percent. All of these can be bought today in any of the Eastern States for less money than in Canada, and the strenuous frontiers of the Liberal party is to have our markets open to the free admission of these products, to the inevitable ruin of our own producers.

This is why the Americans spilled money like water in 1911 in their effort to get that Reciprocity Treaty accepted by Canada, and because the Canadian farmers were too alert and wise to the tricks they were playing. The Fielding-Patterson reciprocity of the late and installed a Conservative government to preserve Canada's markets for Canadians.

While it is true that in potatoes and turnips we might in some years reap a benefit yet it would be so small as in no way to compensate for the larger sacrifice on pork, meats, poultry, vegetables, fruits, berries, beans, condensed milk, cheese, and other farm products which we could not sell to the United States, because their prices are so low ours, and which would be dumped into our markets to the ruin of our own producers. In the present year, even if there was no duty, the prices would not pay us to ship potatoes to the States as at the present.

We can conceive, however, of a reciprocity treaty enabling us to ship with profit some products which are needed and better priced in the neighboring Republic, and of their shipping to us certain products not produced in Canada, tropical fruits for instance, which we need and in which there would be a mutual advantage and profit to both countries; fairer to each; beneficial to both; enlarging the trade of both countries, without prejudice to either. This is the reciprocity aimed after by the Conservatives in contrast to the total give away of our hopes of prosperity by such a line method as the 1911 Treaty, that El-Dorado of Liberalism.

Buy the Best TEA Brahmin Orange Pekoe Ceylon Small Leaf

Eddie Cantor Buys An Annuity Here is a letter written by Eddie Cantor to the Life Agent who sold him his latest annuity: "My Dear Sir: There are many ways of making money. But believe me there are more ways of losing it. This I know from experience. It is my sincere regret that as far back as 1923 someone did not point out to me the many advantages of the annuity plan, because you know that it took but a few minutes of your time to convince me that there is no better way of guaranteeing the security of my savings, including a fair return, than the annuity plan. "Never again will I look for the return ON my money. From now on I am only concerned with the return OF my money. That is why I am definitely sold on annuities as a medium for safe savings."—The Insurance Salesman. Those desiring information on Annuities, Pensions, or any plan of Life Insurance, consult their nearest Great-West Life Agent or write or call on HYNDMAN & CO., LIMITED PROVINCIAL MANAGERS Lower Queen Street Charlottetown